TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

VOL XLVI. TOLEDO, OHIO. THURSDAY. JANUARY 8, 1880. NO. 2

Poetry.

THE PHANTOM SHIPS.

BY WALTER THORNBURY.

The little ships, the phantom ships,
Mere flims of cloudy air,
Go gliding past through light and shade,
To weigh gleams and lustres rare,
Or where the moonbeam's silver path
Shoots glory o'er the sea,
Or where the sunbeam's splendor
Rests in its majesty.

The little ships, the phantom ships,
Mere tiny films of gray,
Go sailing, sailing past the cliffs,
And past the frothing bay.
Are they from East or from the West,
From Turkey or from Spain—
Or but the shadows of dream ships
Gliding across my brain?

These phantom ships, the phantom ships,
With raising wings spread gray,
Flee not forth no crimson pennons
In chivalrous display;
Steer coy in the channel, past the shoal,
With no rejoicing cheer,
With no resounding cannon,
Nor fire flash glancing clear.

These phantom ships are like the hopes
Of days long since rolled by;
O'er life and seas they glide along,
Their gray sails mounting high
Glow on, glide on, ye shadowy fleet,
And bear your dead away,
Past gliding ships and rampart cliffs,
And little frothing bay!

Our Story Teller.

SQUIRE PAUL.

The Story of a Life.

BY HANS WARRING.

CHAPTER XIV.

In spite of their resolve, the anxiety for their friend in the factory weighed upon the spirits of the two young girls, and marred their pleasure in each other's society. True, each one of them availed expressing her fears to her companion, for Paula wished to conceal the threatening danger from Hanna, and the latter, who had comprehended that something was kept secret from her, suppressed every question relating to it. But as the day wore on without bringing news of Marie, when evening at length drew near, and nothing interrupted the solitude of the villa and its occupants, Paula herself, who until then had tried her best to divert her young friend by pleasant chat, could no longer control her uneasiness. For the hundredth time she had looked from the window along the road; and when the latter again lay before her silent and lonely as ever, she turned back into the room with a half-suppressed sigh.

"Come," she said, "I can't bear sitting quietly indoors any longer; I must have some fresh air. Let us take a stroll through the garden; I feel as if I should suffocate here."

The weather had cleared towards evening; the wind had gone round to the east and had rolled up the gray veil of clouds. And as the two friends, arm in arm, stepped out of the house, the sun came out, and, before setting, once more lit up in full splendor the whole landscape which was glistening in its array of pearls.

As smiling and radiant as my Aunt Clemence's face at evening in the drawing-room, after she has gone about grumbling and fault-finding all day long," said Paula.

"A little hypocrisy," replied Hanna, "is praised by us all, I think. Nobody is willing to exhibit all his moods. But we give the feeling a better name: we call it self control."

"That is a virtue which I never learned to practice," observed Paula.

"And yet I believe that a woman's life, above all others, is rich in moments when such practice may become her duty," was Hanna's rejoinder.

"Bah!" answered Paula; "as far as I am concerned, I am privileged before the masses. The vehemence of my temperament does not diminish his love. I told you already, he loves me as I am, with all my faults and weaknesses."

Hanna was silent, and the two girls walked on.

"Thank Heaven, there is uncle's carriage at last! And he and Marie are in it," cried Hanna, in a tone so joyful that it showed how great her previous anxiety had been.

There was a cordial greeting on the front steps of the house. Kayser was in excellent spirits; he was evidently well pleased to welcome Marie to his house. He enjoined upon Hanna to be an attentive hostess and look after the comfort of her guest.

"And as one good thing rarely comes alone," he said, "I have still another pleasure in store for you to-day. The Bechstein Grand has arrived. I have had it sent up before it is quite dark you will have it in the saloon."

Hanna took Marie to her apartments, and the two cheerful, beautifully furnished rooms, filled with everything that could make them an attractive abiding place for a young girl, impressed her most agreeably. She was surprised that Kayser, whose words always seemed to betoken a sort of roughness, had shown such deliberate consideration, such subtle comprehension of his niece's wants.

In Hanna's sitting-room there hung two fine female portraits; one of them, a slender, delicate blonde, representing Hanna's mother; the other, with fiery brown eyes, was that of her uncle's deceased wife.

"What handsome women!" said Marie, in admiration. "Most people would call the brunette the more beautiful of the two; but I find your mother, Hanna, whose eyes and mouth you have inherited, by far the lovelier and more attractive. What a charming face!"

"If you had known them both you would also have thought my mother the more amiable," replied Hanna. "I have been told so many instances of her goodness of heart and loveliness of character that I can well understand how every one who knew her speaks of her with love and admiration. Even my uncle does so—and he is not easily influenced in his judgment by personal advantages. I have heard that his experience in marriage has robbed him of all illusion in that respect."

"You never knew your aunt?" asked Marie, in a low tone.

"No; she died shortly before I was born, after having passed the last six years of her life at Meran. It must have been a very unhappy union for my uncle separated from her hardly two years after they were married."

A pause ensued. Marie would gladly have learned the more particular history of this marriage, but she did not like to ask Hanna about it. The latter, however, after a few moments, as if she had divined her friend's wish, went on with her report:

"I believe they married on a very slight acquaintance," she said. "My uncle may have been attracted by her beauty and vivacity, and dazzled by the universal admiration which she excited. Then, too, she was of a very good family—a relative of the Contagne's—and he had been here but a few years, and probably wished to gain a firm footing in this region. She was poor, and yet accustomed by her life in the house of rich relatives, to gayety and excitement. My uncle was already at that time quite well off, and his intelligence and business experience foretold the wealth which he subsequently acquired. His proposal, therefore, offered her the possibility of continuing the life of pleasure which she had been used to leading. Both soon discovered how little sympathy there was between them, how uncongenial were their views of life."

"And yet it is difficult to understand, Hanna, how the deficiency could have made a separation necessary so soon. I should think that even a slight degree of good intention on both sides would easily harmonize such contrasts in course of time."

"True; but in my uncle's case such good intention may have been partly done away with by a discovery which he is said to have made during the first year of his marriage. He had certain proofs that his wife had not only married him without love—only for his fortune—but that she had been for some time attached to another man, and had promised him her hand. As this man, however, had fewer advantages to offer, he had to yield to the better match."

"Oh, abominable," cried Marie.

"And yet—so Mlle. Sidonie de Contagne has told me—he did not even then think of a separation, although the whirl of gayety in which his wife was involved, and her passion for excitement of every kind, robbed his home of all comfort. He bore bravely and without complaint that which could not be altered. It was only when the man whom his wife had loved returned, after an absence of several years, and he discovered that her love had received a new impulse, that letters were exchanged and appointments made behind his back—it was then only that he insisted on a separation. He settled an ample annuity upon her, on condition of her living at a distance from him, and from that time until her death never saw her again."

"That is a sad story, Hanna," remarked Marie.

"Sad indeed, and particularly in its effect upon my uncle. For twenty-four years he has been living a lonely life embittered by his experiences, full of resentment against the whole sex to which she belonged who abused his confidence. His faith in woman's worth was entirely shaken, his contempt of the whole sex was so great that for many years he avoided all society which would bring him in contract with ladies. But the roughness of his manners, which is a natural consequence of his isolation, has not affected his kindness of heart. I at least have repeatedly had the experience that he is sometimes wanting in the faculty, but never in the wish, to spread joy and happiness around him."

Marie had stood in silence, her eyes fixed upon the portrait of the woman who might have been so happy, and through her own fault had become so lonely and wretched. She felt a deep pity for the man whose life's happiness had been toyed with so frivolously. A feeling of regret that she had often spoken so harshly and unkindly came over her. And yet, in spite of all the little vexations which she had caused him in momentary impatience, he had acted so generously towards her. She bowed her head; she felt that an irrepressible emotion was overpowering her.

"I have often thought," continued Hanna, while she discreetly avoided looking in Marie's face, on which expression and color were rapidly varying—"I have often thought that any woman whom my uncle esteemed highly, and in whom he could place implicit confidence, would not find it difficult to make him happy and to be happy herself with him. There is so much kindness and generosity in his nature. And if it is true that persons can be best judged of by being seen in their own house, and in their relation to their inferiors, it is impossible to form any but a high opinion of the worth of his character. He is a kind master, who attends carefully to the welfare of his servants. It is easily seen that he wishes every one to feel comfortable and happy in his house. But—Marie—you are not offended at my speaking so?"

"Oh, my dear child, how could I be? Go on; I like to hear the praise of a friend."

"If you call me 'child,' you will have to make up your mind to be my little mother. May I call you so? Have you no objection?"

"With all my heart. I was called 'little mother' long before I was as old as you are. And the son whom I brought up with love and care shall now cede his rights to you. I have no suspicion that I shall have to give him up to one whose love is more precious to him than mine. A mother cannot grow accustomed to renunciation too early. I fear that, sooner or later, I shall have that experience confirmed with you too. But the man to whom I give you up one of these days must be a man indeed. Only the best will find grace in my eyes."

"Don't be troubled, little mother! You are in no great danger of losing me. Do you want me to promise you never to marry? I am willing."

Marie lifted the young girl's face and looked into her eyes. She had the intention of reproaching her in jest of accusing her of deceit. But Hanna's eyes looked at her with such a mournful, help-seeking expression that she remained silent. She contented herself with embracing her affectionately and letting her head rest on her bosom. Thus they stood, without speaking, until a knock at the door disturbed them, and a servant summoned them to tea.

In the saloon, where the lamps were already lit and the tea-table was set, Paula and Reinhard, who had arrived soon after his sister, were walking up and down the room, engaged in conversation. They seemed to be discussing matters of importance, for Paula was speaking with animation and in obvious excitement. Max was listening gravely and attentively, and was so engrossed by the earnestness of his companion that when the other two young ladies entered the room he merely looked up and bowed to them at a distance. Nevertheless, the conversation was not continued for Kayser came in from the next room and the party took their seats at table. Reinhard had thought with some anxiety of meeting Hanna again. He was conscious of having allowed himself to be carried away by a momentary impulse at their last interview, and that, if he would act conscientiously, he ought now to be doubly on his guard, and all the more so that he felt that the charm to which he had once succumbed had not yet lost its effect upon him. Hanna had taken her position behind the silver tea-urn, and was silently attending to her duties as hostess. There was loud and cheerful talking around her, but she heard only the anxious throbbing of her heart and the voice within her that whispered, "They have come to an understanding. Oh, if this day were only past and I could be alone again!"

Suddenly she started. Her name had been spoken, and, looking up, she saw the eyes of all fixed upon her.

"Don't blame me for that, Miss Marie," she heard her uncle say, "I am innocent. Ask her if she wants for anything in my house."

"But, Mr. Kayser—" began Marie.

"Exonerate me, child, from this charge!" continued Kayser, in half-feigned, half real annoyance. "Answer me: am I a cruel uncle? Do I let you starve, eh?"

"But, my dear Mr. Kayser!"

"You look at me with accusing eyes, and I cannot bear that. Tell me, Hanna, do you get enough to eat and drink?"

Paula and Max laughed; over Hanna's face, too, a smile passed, as she said to Marie:

"I assure you, dear Marie, I have never in my life met with such cookery as that in this house. And if I avail myself so little of this opportunity, it is solely my own fault."

"But we treat you badly; we neglect you?"

"Not in the least, uncle."

"And even if I do not, the servants do. For instance, Mrs. Horig, our housekeeper. She vents her ill-humor upon you as soon as I turn my back. She locks you up and personally abuses you when you are alone with her—don't she?"

"Why uncle!" cried Hanna, indignantly.

"So you have no complaint to make?"

"No! no indeed!"

"You hear that, Miss Marie?"

"Mr. Kayser, I have never permitted myself even to think, much less express, such an accusation."

"But nobody could have blamed you if you had done it. For I myself have felt anxious at seeing her grow daily paler and thinner, when I sent for her just for the purpose of making her fat and rosy and strong. I wanted to gain credit with you in this respect; I wanted to prove to you by deeds that I am better than my words sometimes make me out to be. And now, just out of spite, she must needs go and bring me and my table into such disrepute!"

All laughed at his sorrow, and Max said, in a consoling tone:

"Don't be alarmed on that point, my dear friend. You yourself are the best proof of the excellence of your cellar and the nutritiousness of your cookery. The sight of you would convince the most unbelieving skeptic."

Max leaned back in his chair and looked, for the first time that evening, attentively at Hanna. It grieved him to see that her sweet face had grown still more delicate and transparent than before. "What if she should be ill—what if she should die?" he thought, and he felt how the very idea oppressed his heart with fear. Hanna, who looked up suddenly and might have read his anxiety in his face, smiled and shook her head.

"There is nothing the matter with me," she replied to his mute appeal; "I feel perfectly well. I have never looked very strong, and yet have never been seriously ill in all my life."

"Yet your looks justify the apprehension of your friends," he answered.

"I wish," she observed, in a low voice, "that my friends had no more serious cause for apprehension than my looks. But I am aware that that is not the case—I know that something is being concealed from us, and suspect that some danger is threatening you and your property. You ought to give us credit for more courage, for the truth, even though it be the most bitter, is always preferable to deception."

He looked up as she spoke, and their eyes met. Hanna, this time, did not lower hers; frankly and earnestly she fixed them upon him. Max felt his heart begin to beat quicker again.

"Well," he said, "I will fulfill your wish. Your suspicions are correct; I have to be prepared for violence. But I hope that you think me capable of protecting myself and my property. I have had ample time, however to take measures to increase my forces. Some of Mlle. de Contagne's most trusty servants, under the supervision of my faithful Kramer, will defend the dwelling house, which at first, from a want of forces, we intended to sacrifice. Your uncle and I, with several resolute men, will undertake the defence of the factory. Immediately after supper I shall leave, in order to go to my post. You and Marie will be safe here."

He had spoken hastily and in a low voice, unobserved by the others, who were engaged in lively conversation. Just then the whole company pushed back their chairs and rose from the table. Kayser gave Marie his arm and led her into the saloon, in the midst of which, illuminated by the brilliant light of the chandelier, stood the new grand piano. With a certain solemnity of manner he begged her to be the first to play on it. Marie quickly responded to his request. And as under her practiced fingers, the first notes filled the lofty apartment, the magnificent tone took even her ear so by surprise that she dropped her hands and looked up in delight.

"So you are satisfied! I am glad, I am very glad of that," cried Kayser.

He would not have needed to express his pleasure; it could be read in his face. Marie, who, during their meal, had several times with difficulty repressed the exclamation, "What a materialist, what a sad materialist, you are!" felt reconciled to him once more by this warm-hearted joy. With a smile she gave him her hand, which he not only pressed fervently between his own, but also raised to his lips with a look of serious homage. When she again began to play (it was her favorite piece, Beethoven's "Sonate Pathetique") he remained beside her and watched her with an expression which drove the color to her cheeks. She was conscious of playing worse than ever before. Inwardly she reproached herself for the dissatisfaction which she had just felt.

"I am foolish," she said to herself, "to expect idealism from a man of his age and experience. What if he overrates the pleasures of the table, and sets a little too much value upon them? I always remember that this weakness is outweighed a thousand fold by his uprightness and his kindness of heart. Hanna is right. It would not be difficult to be happy with him."

Half an hour later the three young ladies were alone again. The lamps in the saloon were extinguished, the doors and shutters closed, and the whole house lay in darkness and silence, as if it harbored nothing but peace and sleep within its walls.

XV.

The hours of the night passed slowly, like all which are spent in care and anxiety. Midnight was already near, and yet neither of the three girls had retired to rest. They had not been able to conceal their solicitude from each other, and had quickly agreed not to separate for the night. Anxiously nestled closely to each other, they sat in Hanna's parlor, from time to time listening at the window to discover whether any distant tumult confirmed their apprehensions. They had not ventured to light a lamp, for fear that the light shining from the room might attract attention of some straggler—a fear which was justified by the vicinity of the factory. Only a faint ray of light penetrated to them from the bedroom, where, behind closely drawn curtains, a subdued night lamp was burning. But faint as was this ray, it yet sufficed to show them the pallor of each other's cheeks, and the anxious expression of their feautures. Thus hour after hour passed on in weary silence. From time to time one of them would rise, in order to softly open a window and listen more intently. But nothing was to be heard but the low rustling of the leaves in the night breeze, or the distant barking of a dog. The night was so quiet that the sound of the factory clock striking the hour of midnight was plainly heard by them in the room.

"Only twelve o'clock!" said Hanna, in whisper; "will the night never come to an end?"

"The dark hours at least will be over soon," replied Marie, in like manner. "After midnight the moon rises, in an hour it will light up the country."

"Perhaps they have been waiting for that," observed Hanna, despondently.

"Don't lose courage," admonished Paula, soothingly. "Every hour that they lose is a gain for us. If our military friends reach Elmsleben by the night train, they can be here by daybreak."

"But it is three hours till then; a long time, in which much may happen," said Hanna.

"The three again fell into a long, anxious silence, during which each fancied she could hear her heart beat. Only the ticking of the clock on the mantel-piece disturbed the quiet, and now and then a softly whispered word or a half suppressed sigh.

"This suspense is hardly to be borne any longer," said Paula at length, rising and going to the window. "It is bad enough to look forward to a danger which threatens ourselves, but worse and times worse to—"

"Hush!" Marie hastily interrupted her words; "don't you hear something?"

In breathless attention the girls listened from the window. The moon had risen. Though not yet high enough to be visible to them, the profound darkness which had previously reigned had begun to diminish, and a dim twilight clouded the region. And, as if the beams of the rising orb, together with the day-dawn had banished also the silence, a sound was heard in the distance, which at first only low, like the rushing of far-off waters but gradually increased, like the roar of a rising storm. It was a dull, confused swell of sounds, inexplicable to the unitiated, but of terribly significance to the three listening women.

"It is they, it is they!" cried Hanna, wringing her hands in despair. "And I had given way to the hope that the poor deluded creatures had begun to realize the misery which they are on the point of drawing down on their own heads!"

"They must be prepared to reap what they sow," said Paula, severely.

"They have been misled," cried Hanna, earnestly."

"And when I think how, in many of them, it is just their most noble feelings, their loyalty to the late government, their patriotism, even their piety, which have been abused for the purpose of inciting them to this act of violence, it grieves me doubly that it has fallen to my brother's lot to be their opponent and accuser. If it were I whom they attacked, I am sure the rifle would tremble in my hand, even if I were using it in just ifiable self-defence."

"Would you blame your brother for defending himself against wrong?" asked Paula.

"Certainly not," replied Marie, quickly; "I only regret the necessity which forces him to do it."

"And do you think he regrets it less than you, little mother?" asked Hanna, earnestly. "I am convinced that his heart is longing to show leniency. I have no doubt that he will practice as much forbearance as is compatible with his safety."

"What an eloquent advocate the child is!" cried Paula, around whose lips, in spite of the critical moment, there played a faint smile; "this is the second opportunity which I have had to-day of admiring her in that capacity."

The noise outside, which increased momentarily in volume and distinctness, cut off reply. The sounds were no longer confused; one could easily distinguish the tramp of many feet and the clamor of many voices.

"It is impossible to bear the uncertainty any longer," cried Paula, after another lengthy pause. "Let us go down stairs. If we cross the meadow and the garden, we can, without danger, reach the hill, from which we can have a view of the whole neighborhood. Nobody will see us if we avoid the road."

Hanna had begun to make preparations for going even before her companion had ceased speaking. With trembling hands she wrapped a large dark shawl also about Marie, and then led her guests silently, and in darkness, down the stairs. In the hall Mrs. Horig, with several of her sturdy servant maids, was keeping watch. Very reluctantly she acceded to the request of the young ladies who had been confided to her care, to unlock the door for them and let them go out into the night unprotected. It was only when she had convinced herself that around the house all was safe and quiet that she suffered them to go. Silently the three friends crossed the garden, which was peaceful and fragrant, and passed through a little gate to the dewy meadow beyond. They soon reached the hill of which Paula had spoken. Its top was crowned with thick shrubbery, above which a couple of old walnut trees lifted their leafy heads. The deep shade of the trees, as well as the low wall formed by the shubbery, served the girls as a hiding-place, from which, without being seen themselves, they could overlook the whole scene of combat. Paula's eyes were the keenest: she was therefore the first who succeeded in surveying the situation.

"Those can't be only the operatives of the factory," she said, speaking rapidly and breathlessly; "there are too many for that. The whole populace of the neighborhood seems to be assembled; they evidently mean this for a grand demonstration against the hated Prussians. Hark! What are those blows?"

"It sounds as if they were throwing stones at the great gate of the factory-court," said Marie, trembling.

"That characterizes the whole miserable band," cried Paula, her lip curling contemptuously. "They don't venture to go nearer—a few courageous men are holding the whole mob in check."

The dull, heavy sounds continued. At each one the listeners dreaded to hear the crash of wood work. They were forced to acknowledge to themselves that the gate could not long withstand the force of these blows.

"He is too forbearing; he treats them too mildly," cried Paula, indignantly. "They have spoken loudly enough to him, miserable fellows that they are! He ought to let his rifle answer them now."

"His delaying to do so raises him all the higher in my opinion," replied Hanna, softly. "I understand and approve of his resorting to such terrible, extreme measures only at the last moment."

"But that is fighting with unequal weapons. Do they hesitate? What do you think his fate would be if he were to fall into their hands?"

Hanna did not answer; Paula's words summoned up before her mind's eye dreadful, horrible pictures. Shuddering, she hid her face in her trembling hands, and, as if her feet had lost their power of bearing her, she crouched down upon the ground at Marie's feet.

With increased vehemence and rapidity the blows followed each other, and the wild cries of the assailants grew constantly louder and more threatening. At last—even Hanna could no longer deny that serious resistance was urgently demanded—the first shot fell, answered in quick succession by several others from the dwelling-house, which stood a little apart. The effect soon showed itself. A wild, long-continued yell, like that of a herd of wounded beasts of prey, was heard; then there was a sudden silence. It lasted but a few moments, but in the midst of it was heard the shrill whistle of the locomotive in the direction of Elmsleben—a sound which filled the hearts of the three women with joyful hope.

"The train! the train! I see it!" cried Paula. "Like a serpent it is winding along the outskirts of the town. Help is at hand. Courage, Hanna! Marie, dry your tears! He is safe now!"

They threw their arms about each other, weeping with joy; but a weary hour had still to pass before the helpers could reach the spot. And during that time there was more than once reason to fear that they would be too late.

"Oh, if they were only here—if they were only here!" And Paula, whose courage and confidence had returned to her with the approach of assistance, answered in words of consolation and hope and her fresh, clear voice sounded reassuring and reviving in the ears of her despairing hearers. "They must be able to hear the shooting down at Elmsleben; it will show them how much they are needed here," she said. "They surely will not lose a moment. And the certainty that help is near will encourage our poor besieged ones to hold out bravely. Come, let us cheer up; I am sure of a good ending now."

Availing herself of the thick branches of one of the bushes for a ladder, she had climbed up some distance so as to have a better view. There she stood, surrounded by foliage. Her pretty head appeared above it, and her arms were raised high to grasp the branches of a tree. From the factory the shots and the blows resounded at shorter and shorter intervals. The crash of wood-work and the cries of triumph which accompanied every advantage gained fell on the ears of the listeners more and more loudly, more and more ominously.

"How terrible that sounds! Don't you see anything yet, Paula?—nothing? Oh, my God, if they should come too late!"

"Courage! courage! When I can see them, they will be here in a few minutes."

"What kind of troops are they to be? Infantry?"

"No, cavalry, dragoons."

She turned away her face, for she feared that, in spite of the uncertain twilight, her companions would observe the blush which covered her face.

"How do you know that, Paula?" asked Marie.

"Through the authorities. They were applied to for the necessary stabling. It was all arranged by telegraph."

"Perhaps my brother Richard will command them," said Marie.

There was no answer, but Paula looked more intently than ever towards Elmsleben.

"Nothing to be seen yet, dear?"

"No; but I can assure you that it can last but a few minutes now."

Again there was silence for a while. Then Marie said, "Of course we shall all have some soldiers quartered upon us, I suppose."

"Yes indeed; I have already given orders that the whole establishment at Fleurmont be made ready to receive them. Let as many come as please. They shall be welcome to me."

"If our dear boy should come, he ought to stay with us," cried Marie.

"I fear your house will hardly be in a state to entertain them. Kayser and I have offered to receive the officers."

"Perhaps there will be only one."

"Possibly. But that one I lay claim to, do you hear? I want him; mine he must be."

"Hark! don't you hear something? What is that?"

"That is the sound of horses' feet. They are coming! They are coming!"

A strange noise like the rolling of thunder was heard at a distance, which came nearer and nearer every minute. It was not long before the two other girls could distinguish it in the sound of the hoofs of many horses advancing at a brisk trot. They heard it only at intervals—then it was again lost to the listening ears in the confused, furious roar of the vehement combat.

And now they saw them, the long-looked-for deliverers. Helmet upon helmet rose up from the valley. The first horsemen were already disappearing in the shrubbery which bordered the dam, while the end of the line was still hidden in the valley.

"I can't see anything more," said Marie; "my eyes are dazzled. The whole region seems to me enveloped in mist. Look, Paula; have they passed the dam yet?"

"Yes, there is the first horseman emerging from the shrubbery; he has ridden more rapidly than the others. He is halting in the road and waiting for the others. 'Tis he—I recognize him! Oh, Marie, I recognize him!"

The sun, which was just rising, was behind Paula; therefore it could not be its rays that dazzled her. But something seemed to impede her vision, for she passed her hand hastily over her eyes.

"Whom do you recognize? Who is it?" cried Marie, eagerly.

"Who is it? Why, of course, the officer," replied Paula, once more shading her eyes with her hand.

"Oh, if it were only Richard! It is so long since I have seen him!—Is he young, Paula? Look closely. How does the first horseman look?"

Paula's bosom heaved tumultuously. If Marie's attention had not been so engrossed in other things, she could not but have noticed the young girl's agitation, which colored her face with deep crimson.

"You ask how he looks, Marie?" she answered, after a short pause. "Well, handsome—very handsome! A slender figure of medium height—brown eyes. Intelligent like yours, Marie, but looking out into the world more resolutely, more sure of success—"

"You know him, Paula?"

"A slight, dark mustache; and on his left cheek a scar, the honorable scar of a warrior, which only adds to the beauty which Nature has bestowed upon his face."

"Paula!—can it be possible—can you be the one? Come down, child! Oh, heavens! I might have suspected that."

"Here I am, little mother," cried the young girl, springing lightly from her elevated position and coming to Marie's side. "What are the commands of my respected mamma?"

They looked into each other's eyes, and Marie saw in those of Paula, besides their usual roguish twinkle, an expression of deep, fervent emotion. She seized her hands and pressed them affectionately.

"Will you not confide in me, Paula?" she asked.

"Yes, in you before all others! You shall know everything; but presently—not now! We have counted on you and your protection. Have we been mistaken, Marie?"

A firm pressure of the hand was the only answer. Then they went to Hanna, who at some distance from them had been looking out into the landscape so intently that she had not noticed the little scene between her companions.

"See here," she said, "the sun is just rising, and before its light all the evil, hostile spirits of the night must vanish. Look! Only the good has remained—the dark powers of hatred and rebellion have withdrawn from the field."

When the first red rays of morning lit up the scene the friends saw the occupants of the factory opening the gate of the court to the troops who had just arrived, or rather clearing away before them the boards and splinters, which were all that remained of the substantial portal. Nothing was to be seen of the assailants; they had quickly fled even before the arrival of the armed forces. But the traces which they had left on the scene of the nocturnal combat made the girls shudder. Nothing but havoc wherever their eyes turned. And more horrible still than the ploughed up ground, the shattered windows and doors, the trampled grass-plats and flower beds of the garden, were the dark, motionless figures which had been left behind as victims of the struggle.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

MRS. STANTON.

She Expresses Herself Upon Sleep and Other Matters.

Chicago Tribune.

Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton and her daughter arrived at the Sherman House yesterday morning from Iowa, having traveled all night. A *Tribune* reporter sent up a card during the afternoon, and had a very pleasant talk with the lady. "I am a great advocate of sleep," said she. "I always believed in it, and I never allow anything to disturb me from sleeping. I have taught myself to go to sleep whenever I am tired. My old father, who was a well known lawyer, outlived four generations of young men who took no regular rest. Whenever he felt tired he went to sleep. At 84 he sat as a Judge on the Bench, with faculties clear as a bell, and with health unimpaired. Whenever he had an important brief to prepare he did not pace his room all or half of the night, but rested himself by refreshing sleep. 'Way,' he used to say, after he had gotten up after a brief nap, 'I can look through a millstone.' The mistake our business men make is that they do not take enough rest. Whenever a man is tired he should go to sleep. I would advocate a nap of from 10 to 15 minutes after every meal. If I had the power I would put a lounge in every room, and compel every man to lie down at least half an hour each day. The rest on a lounge after meals aids digestion, and the horizontal position assists in the circulation of the blood, making it uniform throughout the body. If men followed nature's laws more closely there would not be so many of them on a comparatively young filling premature graves. A short rest and nap is as exhilarating after a meal as a glass of champagne. The trouble is that men chew and smoke tobacco and cigars, and drink liquors, and get up a false stimulation, while all the time their constiutions are being undermined. True, I inherited a good constitution from both my parents and at 64 years of age I still enjoy good health because I have taken care of myself. If we violate Nature's laws we must pay the penalty. There are no effects without causes. We do not look after our sanitary laws as we should. When I lived at home with my family in New York I never went to bed without having first gone through the house and looked through every basin and sink and stopped them up and put water in them, and then sprinkled a few drops of carbolic acid around. My folks used to say that I went to a great deal of unnecessary trouble, but I replied that if I was to be gone a month that they would all be sick.

"The cause of woman suffrage is progressing. Do you know the importance of the law passed by Congress at its last session giving women lawyers the right to practice before the Bar of the United States Supreme Court? It was one of the greatest steps toward attaining our end. Think of the Bar of the Nation open to us. I am looking forward to the time when a woman shall sit upon the Supreme Bench as Judge. Women fill acceptable to day the offices of Superintendents of Schools, Clerks of Courts, etc., and I do not see why women of equal intelligence should not be placed upon the same plane with men. I believe in compulsory education. In this generation this country will contain probably 100,000,000 people. I believe in making a law that no one shall be allowed to vote in this country after 1885 who shall not be able to read and write. I believe in making a test of intelligence as a prerequisite to the ballot, and placing it in the hands of women as well as men. Yes, women suffrage is progressing, and I believe I shall live to see the day when women shall vote on all questions."

CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

Colored People on Street Cars.

N. Y. Times.

By the prominence which he gained in this case, Mr. Arthur won many friends among the colored people, as well as among liberty loving men and women in all parts of the country. While it was in progress, that is during 1855 and 1856, before it became "prosperous to be just," the street cars of most of the New York City railroad lines made no provision for the transportation of colored people. On the Sixth avenue or one or two other lines, conveyances labeled "Colored persons allowed in this car," were run at long intervals, but on the Fourth avenue and other East Side lines, not even this provision was made. Under these circumstances, Lizzie Jennings, a respectable colored woman, neatly dressed, clearly, of good appearance, the Superintendent of a colored Sunday School, hailed a Fourth avenue car and succeeded in obtaining a seat in it. The conductor took her fare, thereby tacitly admitting her right to be a passenger, but hardly had he done so when a drunken white ruffian, who was seated in the car, demanded: "Are you going to let that ——— nigger ride in this car?"

"Oh, I guess it won't make any difference," said the conductor.

"Yes, but it will," replied the other; "I have paid my fare, and I want a decent ride, and tell you you've got to put her out."

Thus appealed to, the conductor went to the colored woman and asked her to leave the car; she refused to do so. The car was stopped. The conductor attempted to eject her by force. She resisted bravely, crying all the time:

"I have paid my fare and I am entitled to a ride."

Her dress was almost torn from her back. Strong men stood by but gave her no assistance. Still she fought bravely for what she believed to be her right. The conductor could not eject her, and was compelled to call for the aid of the Police. By their efforts the woman was dragged from the car.

The matter coming to the notice of a number of influential colored people, they desired to make it a test case, and applied to Mr. Arthur for advice. He at once espoused their cause and took their case before Justice Rockwell, in Brooklyn. When the trial came on, the court room was almost crowded to suffocation, and at one time serious trouble was threatened by those who believed to seek justice for a black man was to do injustice to humanity.

Even the Judge seemed to share this opinion, for when the attorney handed him the papers in the case, he threw them upon the desk, with the exclamation:

"Pshaw! do you ask me to try a case against a corporation for the tort [the wrongful act] of its agent?"

In reply to this, Mr. Arthur plainly pointed out a portion of the Revised Statutes, under which there was an undoubted right of action. After examining it, the court concurred cordially with the counsel, the case was tried, and, much to the delight of the colored people, a verdict of $500 was rendered in favor of the plaintiff. The railroad company paid the judgment without further contest, and at once issued orders that thereafter colored people be allowed to ride upon its cars. Similar action was soon after taken by all the City railroad companies. At this there was great rejoicing among all the negros in New York, the Colored People's Legal Rights Association was established, and for many years afterward with much ceremony celebrated the anniversary of the trial which resulted as described.

A lazy man up town has a wife named Hope, whose custom it is to pull off her husband's boots every evening. She is wont to exclaim on such occasions: "How truly it is said that "Hope is the yanker of the sole."

THE TAY BRIDGE.

A Description of the Structure.

Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The Tay Bridge crosses the Frith of that name at the west end of Dundee. It was built under the auspices of the North British Railway Company, with a capital of $1,750,000, and, though there were many predictions that there would not be enough traffic to pay the cost of the enormous structure, it is believed the bridge has proved so far a financial success. The Frith of Tay, where the bridge crosses it, is about two miles wide. Previous to the opening of the bridge, all passengers going to Dundee from the South, by the British lines, had to be ferried across the Tay from opposite Dundee on the South shore. This was slow, disagreeable, and sometimes dangerous. Travelers desiring to avoid this had to reach Dundee by a circuitous Perth route. The North British Company determined to bridge the two miles of estuary, if engineering skill were equal to the task. It was a gigantic undertaking, not only on account of the wide stretch of water to be spanned without obstruction to navigation, but because the Tay had strong tidal currents, and

THE WIND SWEEPS DOWN

it with terrible violence. Parliamentary authority was obtained for the construction of the bridge in 1870. The contracts were made in May, 1871, and the foundation-stone was laid on the south side on the 22d of July of the same year. The designer was the Engineer of the North British Railway Company, Sir Thomas Beuch. In the construction of the bridge many improvements of former methods were introduced. The chief of these was the dispensing with the usual staging and scaffolding, by erecting piers and girders on shore and floating them out to their destination. Cylinders of iron and brickwork, with a diameter of 9½ feet, built on shore in such lengths as would reach from the rock on which they were intended to rest to a point above low-water level, each consisting of a cast iron shell with a lining of brick work set in Portland cement, were connected by a wall of brick work about five feet wide, thus placing a space of 12 feet wide between their centers. The whole being then made fast to a system of strong iron girders, barges were introduced at low tide underneath the girders, so that when the tide rose the ponderous mass was lifted bodily and floated out to its place. Then the cylinders were lowered by the hydraulic apparatus till they rested on the river bed. Workmen then descended in the hollow shafts of the cylinders and excavated material from beneath, thereby causing them to sink to the bed rock. Owing to the

SUDDEN SHELVING OF THE ROCK

toward the middle of the river, under the beds of clay, sand, and gravel, it became impracticable to sink the piers to the rock, and a new method had to be introduced. All that part of the bridge which has given way is over the middle of the stream, where it may be assumed the piers were not sunk to the rock. Here one great cylinder filled with concrete was used, instead of two. The cylinder was sunk in the usual way until it reached a depth of 18 feet below the river bed, when, the top being removed, a smooth surface was presented on which to place the superstructure. When all the piers had been raised to the necessary height the girders were towed out and raised to their places by hydraulic apparatus. Two girders, connected by transverse braces, go to each span, the depths varying according to the width of the span to be crossed. The length of the spans diminish in going toward the shores on either side of the navigable channel. To allow for expansion by heat, which amounts to seven feet for the whole length, the girders were so adjusted to the piers as to allow a certain amount of free play.

THE BRIDGE HAS 85 SPANS,

varying in length from 67 to 245 feet, those of the largest size, to the number of 13, being placed over the navigable portion of the river. In this central section, where it was necessary to provide for the shipping, the bridge has a clear hight of 88 feet above high water.

On the Dundee side, owing to the necessity of entering Dundee underground, the gradient is one in 75. For the purpose of making its shore connections, the bridge had to be built with a double curve, so that it resembles a gigantic letter S.

It is noticeable that, while the bridge was in course of erection, an accident occurred which significantly demonstrated the tremendous force of the wind, and the possibility of just such a terrible disaster as occured Sunday. On the afternoon and night of February 1, 1877, a fierce gale was blowing. Near the south side of the bridge two of the large iron girders, weighing nearly 200 tons, had been raised up to the full hight of the structure, but were still hanging between the piers. Fifty four men employed at this point ceased work at 5 o'clock, but, owing to the severity of the gale, it was impossible to communicate with the shore. About 8 o'clock a fierce squall struck the bridge. It carried away the two porous girders and the pier on which they rested snapped, the whole mass falling with a

HEAVY CRASH INTO THE RIVER AMID FLASHES OF FIRE

from the splintered ironwork. It was stated that "the accident in no way indicated any want of stability in the work."

The first train crossed the bridge Sept. 26, 1877, starting from the south side, for the purpose of inspection only. Twenty thousand people assembled on Magdalen Green, Dundee, to witness the spectacle. The building of the bridge was regarded as one of the greatest engineering feats of the age.

The bridge was not formally opened for passenger traffic until May 31, 1878. On that occasion there was a grand ceremony, to which invitations were issued to leading noblemen and gentlemen of Great Britain. The bridge is part of a system of the North British Railroad Company, and bridging the Frith of Forth has already been begun by the same corporation.

A SCOTCHMAN'S VIEW OF THE BRIDGE.

Special Dispatch to the Tribune.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 29.—There are many Scotchmen here from the neighborhood of Dundee, and the news of the great railroad disaster in Scotland creates an intense interest. Mr. Cosh, of this City, crossed the Tay bridge, and made an examination of it last Winter. He says that in many features of its construction it resembles the St. Charles bridge, over the Missouri River, on which a similar disaster lately occurred. He says it is a very high bridge, used solely for railroad travel and no foot-passers are allowed to pass over it. There has been a strong prejudice against the

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., Pubrs.

TOLEDO, O., THURSDAY, JAN. 8, 1880.

☞ ENTERED AT THE POST-OFFICE AT TOLEDO AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

OUR CLUB LIST.

We have made arrangements with the publishers enabling us to send the BLADE and either of the following periodicals for the prices annexed (postage pre-paid):

WEEKLIES.	Regular Club Rates.	With BLADE.
Chronicle of Work	$3 00	$2 75
Country Gentleman	3 00	2 60
Harper's Bazar	4 00	3 50
Harper's Weekly	4 00	4 00
New York Ledger	3 00	2 75
Scientific American	2 00	2 25
Semi-Weekly Tribune	6	5
Christian Advocate	3 00	3 00
Sunday Magazine	4 00	4 50
Weekly Herald	2 00	2 75
Weekly Sun	2 00	2 25
MONTHLIES.		
Appleton's Journal	3 00	3 00
St. Nicholas (monthly)	3 00	3 00
American Agriculturist	1 50	2 50
Ladies' Floral Cabinet	1 50	2 00
Phrenological Journal	2 00	3 00
The Nursery, (Chicago)	1 50	2 75
Young Folks' Monthly	1 10	2 25
Picture Gallery, (Louisville)	50	2 00
The Morning, (Temperance)	75	2 00
American Bee Journal	1 00	2 50
Appleton's Journal	3 00	3 75
Andrews' Bazar	3 00	2 75
Arthur's Home Magazine	2 25	3 00
Atlantic Monthly	4 00	4 00
Brainard's Musical World	1 50	2 25
Lesslie's Popular Monthly	3 00	3 75
" Sunday Magazine	3 00	3 75
Harper's Monthly	4 00	4 00
Godey's Lady's Book	2 00	3 00
Peterson's Magazine	2 00	2 75
Scribner's Magazine	4 00	4 00
Good Company	2 00	2 75

Our agents everywhere are authorized to receive subscriptions at the above rates. In making this proposition we only stipulate that we must receive at the same time one subscriber of THE BLADE for each copy of any other publication ordered from the list. These must be sent to the same person, and not even to the same Postoffice, and in remitting their subscriptions, old as well as new subscribers may avail themselves of the offer. The magazines and papers are all sent direct from the offices of publication to subscribers, so that there will be no delay in their receipt. No subscriptions received at the above rates for less than one year.

Please remember that we CANNOT KEEP OPEN a store of subscriptions for the above named papers and magazines, except for THE BLADE, as stated.

As the inevitable result of fraud in all newspaper offices, a subscription year is reckoned as FIFTY-TWO WEEKS.

SEN. BAYARD intends to press the debate on the financial resolution as soon as the Senate reassembles.

ONE year ago the most prominent part of every Democratic paper was occupied with the record of failures and suspensions.

PHILADELPHIA *Times*: The way the Democrats in Maine have been acting seems to indicate that they have concocted fraud.

ONE year ago the late SAM CARY said that it was as impossible for the United States Government to Resume as it was for a pyramid to stand upon its apex.

THE New Haven *Palladium* reports the best Connecticut Democrats as denouncing GARCELON'S Maine performance, ex Gov. ENGLISH no doubt standing with them.

THE Chilian legation at Paris announces that he has received a telegram to the effect that the President of Peru has arrived at Panama, en route to the United States and Europe.

THE principal Italian nobles who were displeased with the political events of 1870 are now reported to be coming around and opening their reception rooms for occasions of festivity.

SOLON CHASE forces GARCELON'S hoist out of the Chair on a technical twist, and then says: "Them technikalities are dreffful unsartin things to fool with; they're wuss even nor them skittish steers o' mine."

FOR more than 30 years capitalists have been prospecting in Pennsylvania and New Jersey for mines of zinc. Four very valuable ones have been discovered, which are pronounced some of the best in the country.

BOSTON *Transcript*: A liberal Democratic, when asked his opinion about Maine, said, "I don't see why the Republicans should complain. They have lived on Democratic blunders for years, and the supply seems to be inexhaustible."

THE railway trains in France and Germany run at a much less rate of speed than those of England. Lately there has been a change in this respect, but they still do not attain any great degree of rapidity, the quickest time of express trains now being less than 40 miles per hour.

THE shares of Edison's Electric Light Company, which a little over a year ago could have been bought for $45 apiece, have now gone up to $5,000, and hard to get at that. The holders are sanguine that a bonanza is in their possession, while the doubters still stand outside and claim that the whole thing is a put-up job to make money. The matter will soon be decided, and people will see—what they will see.

JACOB REESE, of Pittsburg, puts forth some remarkable claims in regard to an alleged new discovery in metallurgy. He says he is able to melt instantly a bar of cast steel one inch in diameter—which cannot be fused in less than five minutes in the highest furnace heat attainable—simply by throwing against it a column of air having a velocity of 25,000 feet a minute. The instant the air touches the metal fusion takes place.

THE Vallejo (Cal.) *Chronicle* discovered a thoroughly Americanized Chinaman in a smoking car on a railroad train that passed through that place. A colored steward of a steamboat entered the car, and taking a cheroot from his pocket, asked, with a lordly air, for a light from the heathen's cigar. With a look of disdain, the Chinaman replied: "No; you takee the Habana all out; me givee you matchee," and with that he took from his pocket a match, struck it and passed it over to the colored gentleman.

A GERMAN savant thinks that he has discovered that the real cradle of the human race is in the Andes, and not on the plains of the Oxus, as is now generally believed. He was first drawn toward this conclusion by finding a wonderful similarity between the root words of the language of several Andean tribes, and the Semitic tongues—especially the Arabic. Starting with this as a basis, he groups around it many other facts which to him prove that the Americas are really the Old World, and Europe, Asia and Africa the New.

THE DECADE OF '80.

With Thursday last we began a new year. Considered in a purely business sense, we begin it under infinitely brighter auspices than we have done any in the Decade which has just closed. In saying this we do not forget nor underestimate the great apparent prosperity of the first years of this Decade.

Though the respective new years of '70, '71, '72, '73, and even '74 held out the brightest hopes as to the prosperous achievements of each of those incoming years, and though these hopes were, in all except the last, apparently realized, yet their specious show could not blind a very large portion of the shrewder class of business men. The eye of common sense pierced through the deceptive mirage, and showed the gaunt specter of Pay Day looming up threateningly behind it. They foresaw that we could not go on forever inflating the bubble; that man must sometime stop buying goods for which they did not pay; building factories that returned no dividends, and putting all the money and credit they could grasp into non productive railroads, or still more unproductive real estate in imaginary Cities.

It was only a question of time. If 1870 did not bring Settling Day, it at least greatly increased the chances that 1871 would. At the beginning of 1872 the far-seeing business man congratulated himself that the day of reckoning had not come as he feared, and there might be such good luck as its being shoved off for another year, when he would have his matters so rounded up as to be in good shape to meet it. When it did arrive in September, 1873, no one had their houses in order for it, though they had all expected and dreaded it since the close of the War.

We need be troubled with no such misgivings about the Decade we are now entering. Settlement Day is past during its continuance, at least. It will come again—probably within 15 years—but that is of little present consequence. The impression that we have just past through has been like a chill Winter, which has killed off feeble and false growths, and left the ground free for the healthier developments to thrive and prosper. Everything combines to favor these sound and wholesome growths. The return to specie payments, and true business methods, puts everyone in shape to take full advantage of all the marvelous growth in prosperity which the whole country is enjoying.

Whoever now, by skill, industry or economy, gains a dollar above his immediate wants, has the assurance that that dollar has a definite and permanent value, which must always adhere to it, and be quite independent of the tricks of speculators or the machinations of demagogs. Should he invest it wisely in real estate—Should he use it in acquiring an interest in an established factory, in a railroad, in any form of value that has been tested and found good by the recent crisis, he will find it growing every day, as the country waxes and grows in richness and prosperity.

Every acre of land, every mile of railroad, every square foot of storehouse, every wheel and hammer and loom in every factory will go on for years steadily increasing in value, and in *real*, not speculative or potential value. That will probably be reserved for the beginning of the Decade of '90, when men will have so far forgotten the lessons of '73 as to cast prudence to the winds, and embark upon a tossing sea of speculation, to meet destruction on its wreck-lined shores.

But until then our prosperity will be builded on a rock. As long as the experience of the past six years is the chart by which men will steer, so long will our material progress be substantial and enduring, and this generation of business men can go on confidently with this assurance.

EMANCIPATION IN CUBA.

January 1, according to the announcement made Christmas Day, was to begin the destruction of slavery in the Island of Cuba. The strn in the Cortesggle has been long and bitter, but the progressive party triumphed, and it was announced by order of the Spanish Government emancipation should begin New Year's Day of 1880 and be completed on the same day of 1890.

Few people stop to realize all that this involves, the horrors that it ends, the disgrace to civilization that it makes cease. In 1821, over 350 years ago, the long agony began. For two centuries after that Spain went on in the name of religion with this terrible traffic, making during that time 10 treaties that authorized "the sale of more than 50,000 human beings, and received from it a tax of 50,000,000 livres. By the treaty of Utrecht she granted to Great Britain the monopoly of the trade that gave the New World its supply of slaves. Of the sufferings of the poor creatures who were torn from their homes, of the thousands who died upon mid-ocean, it boots not now to speak. If the glad tidings are true, then one of the greatest crimes and most terrible tragedies the world has ever known is brought to an end. When other countries engaged in the infamous work gave it up, Spain and Portugal clung to the traffic for the money which it brought, unheeding the despairing cries of outraged humanity, but at last the sentiment of a civilized world has had its weight. With the sweeping away of this reproach, it is to be hoped that these countries will awake from the degenerate sleep in which they have been wrapped, and roused to take their places in the progressive movements of nations.

PEOPLE who wade through the apology of the Maine conspirators, will be surprised at its woful insufficiency. It is enough to point out in answer to the marvelously long list of trifling legal quirks, snap judgment technicalities which are there given, that while these are considered ample enough to unseat over one-third of the Republicans elected, in no instance is a Democrat unseated for the same reason. Do these men think the people of the United States are so stupid as to believe that it was only Republicans who made clerical mistakes, or who voted in one place with the initials of a candidate's name upon the ticket, and in another with his full Christian name? The thing is simply preposterous. There is need of no stronger indictment against GARCELON and his accomplices than their own manifesto.

"A YOUNG business man" of Minneapolis, who says he has $5,000, advertises in a Baltimore paper for a wife, who must be worth $3,000. It is not likely that young man will receive many answers.

SCHOOLS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

An ong other improvements made by the new educat on law in Holland is the one which does away with the custom of having pupil teachers or boys and girls, some of them not more than 14 years of age, to give instruction in the English branches. Without sufficient training to enable them to be thorough masters of what they were endeavoring to give to others, with no self-discipline and no experience in imparting knowledge, the plan, cheap though it was in a present pecuniary sense, was dear in its permanent effect upon the people. The failure has been perceived and remedied there, but in England, where the same system prevails, and which is supposed to be one great cause of the low standard of elementary instruction, the fight is now going on. While the salaries of the experienced teachers who are employed are liberal, there are not enough of them. Their work is supplemented in the way above described, and the results cannot be other than deplorable.

Nine years ago Great Britain put into operation the law of compulsory attendance, and this has worked a wonderful change in the elementary schools. The number of scholars is greatly increased, as was to be expected, and has necessitated a great expansion of accommodation. Yet the latter falls far short of what is required and prevents the law from being rigidly enforced in many localities.

According to the report of the Educational Department in England about 5,000,000 chileren should be upon the roll, while in reality there are only 3,500,000. Before the passage of the act which forbade the employment of little ones in the factories and workshops below a certain age, the deficiency was much greater. This, with the Compulsory law, has driven into the school rooms thousands who would otherwise never have learned to read and write.

It does not seem as if any large body of people could exist in a civilized country who would not see the necessity of an education in order to place their children upon an equality with other bread winners or give them an equal chance with their fellows. But the facts show both in Great Britain and in the United States that there are many who have not only an indifference to the improvement of their offspring, through the influence of the schools, but a stubborn opposition will be exhibited if an effort is made to influence or compel them to take advantage of the opportunities afforded. Especially is this true where self interest is at stake. Ignorant themselves, they cannot see how an education can compensate for the loss of the few dollars that their children can earn every week. It is to fight this class that a compulsory law is needed everywhere. It is of vital importance to the well being of the State that its citizens should possess the highest intelligence that it is possible for them to obtain, and hence its right to look after the the education of its children.

Aside from the possession of this law, it would appear that the public Schools of the United States are, in many respects, in advance of those in Great Britain. There is not the same general determination to get cheap teaching, and instructors of youth are looked upon with greater respect, a thing which has much to do with the elevation and the efficiency of the schools.

THE BRITISH IN AFGHANISTAN.

G. W. SMALLEY writes to the *N. Y. Tribune* an account of British barbarity in Afghanistan which, if true, is a lasting disgrace to the English Government. To assume as they have done the right to control matters in a country to which they have no shadow of claim, was an outrage to start with. To follow it up by a style of treatment more befitting barbarians than civilized people is a still greater one, and must challenge the condemnation of the whole world. Mr. SMALLEY says:

This correspondent writes from Cabul, November 12: "Hitherto," says he—that is, during the six previous weeks—"the Commission has condemned all who were shown to have fought against us at Charasiab on the 6th of October, or on the Cabul Heights two days later." Why condemned, I ask, and to what were they condemned? They were condemned as "rebels," and the punishment was death. In what sense were they rebels? Lord Lytton tells us in his dispatch of October 18 that they were rebels because they pertinaciously opposed the British advance after warning. Lord Lytton must be understood as meaning that they were constructively rebels to the authority of the Ameer, which authority the British were constructively supporting against his subjects—a theory that involves the further assumption that the British invasion of Afghanistan was not intended, primarily, to avenge the killing of Sir Louis Cavagnari, but to restore Yakoob Khan to the throne. Yakoob Khan meanwhile was in the British camp. Received as a guest he was detained as a hostage, and it is now some weeks since he was sent to India to be tried for his alleged complicity in the attack on the British Embassy in Cabul. He never at any time was the accepted ruler of Afghanistan. If he had been the British themselves caused to treat him so. They set him up, and they pulled him down; and after they had pulled him down and made him prisoner, and arraigned him as a criminal, they denounced as rebels the Afghans who did not recognize both the Ameer's authority and the right of the British to enforce it. The jailer proclaimed as rebels the free men who disowned the sway of his prisoner.

Gen. ROBERTS' whole proceedings seem to have been based upon the ground that Afghanistan belongs to Great Britain and the efforts of her people for independence were rebellion against legally constituted authority. He hung all who were taken either in arms, or who acknowledged to having borne them, with as much coolness as if they were Londoners who had risen against Queen VICTORIA. In real truth, he had no more right to do this than Gen. SHERMAN has to step across into Canada, seize the principal city in the name of the United States, and hang all who might resist his authority. The assumption of protecting the rightful Ameer is the merest balderdash and can deceive no one.

It is true that the Afghans are a semi-barbarous people, that the massacre of the British at Cabul was a terrible thing, but they are fighting for what they believe to be their rights, and that was one of the steps thought to be necessary. To treat those who take part in any of their military movements as criminals, is a feature of the dark ages. It may be needful to "terrorize" these people in order to maintain British control, but how did Great Britain gain her title to Afghanistan.

Call things by their right names. It may be well for the progress of civilization that English arms shall be triumphant in Afghanistan—although it has not gone forward very rapidly among the natives of India—but let it be thoroughly understood that it is England's ambition and not England's sense of justice that has prompted this interference in Afghan affairs.

RIPARIAN ENGINEERING.

The Improvement of the Inundated Lands of the Mississippi Valley.

It is generally acknowledged that the Mississippi is one of the muddiest rivers in the world, holding in suspension while in motion a great amount of alluvial matter, mixed with sand, which settles, forming a deposit when it overflows or when the current is checked.

Previous to the commencement of the levee system it annually overflowed its banks, depositing large quantities of alluvium, which was much thicker near the river than a short distance back.

This process, continued for ages, has raised the land on the bank, leaving a basin or hollow between the river and the hills on each side, making extensive swamps. Now, since the commencement of the levee system this immense deposit, being confined within the bed of the river, could not all be carried out of the mouth of the river into the Gulf, but a portion of the heaviest part of it was left in the bottom, raising the bed of the river which necessitated a corresponding raising of the levees.

This was partially successful for a time, and might be by an immense expense for a time longer; but the levee system unless combined with outlets is a strife against nature, and if continued the whole Lower Mississippi Valley will become subject to annual overflows from which levees will no longer protect it, for Nature will exert her supremacy at last. In levying such a stream as the Mississippi, the former flood levels can be no criterion to depend upon, because in its natural state the river overflowed the country in places for 50 miles in width. Now, confine the the whole of this surplus water between levees, two, three, or four miles apart, and it is evident that it will raise the water far above all former precedent.

Joseph Anger, of Ibberville Parish, says: "Fifty years of experience in this State has demonstrated the utter futility of the State attempting to keep up its own levees. Legislation of a National character is necessary to a reclamation of the low lands."

And I venture the prediction that should the National Government undertake to carry out the levee system independent of extensive outlets, 50 years of experience more will demomstrate the utter futility of the project.

The same author says:

"Suppose all the riparian and interior communities of this State were protected from the Mississippi south of the Arkansas line, should a break occur in the levees above; the waters will come south through the Yazoo Valley on the one side, and break through the Bayou Macon hills from the St. Francis Valley on the other, flanking the whole interior and rendering an otherwise good system a nullity." The Valley of the Mississippi is an incline plane from its head-waters to the Gulf.

The distance from the mouth of the Ohio to the Gulf is about 1,300 miles by the course of the river. On a straight line it is not far from 600 miles. A systematic straightening of the river from the mouth of the Ohio to the Gulf would probably shorten the distance 400 miles, which would give the same descent in 900 miles that it now has in 1,300.

Turnica Bend is 42 miles around, and four miles across the neck, which must operate as a mighty dam, checking and obstructing the water in its passage to the Gulf.

Now cut a channel across the neck and you have the same amount of fall in four miles that there was in 42, and shortening the distance 38 miles. This, without any other improvements below, would settle the river above the Bend, and raise it correspondingly below.

But if the system of canalling across and cutting off all the bends from the mouth of the Mississippi to the head of alluvial region, were completed it would have a tendency to settle the whole river except in the vicinity of the Gulf, for this reason: The distance would be materially shortened and the velocity of the current increased, which would allow the superabundant waters of the Mississippi to reach the Gulf from the mouth of the Ohio in one-half of the time required at present. This system thoroughly carried out would prevent the waters of the Mississippi from rising as high as at present into 15 feet; which would effect the inundated lands as favorably as it would to raise the upper part of the valley to the same height. That portion of the valley from the mouth of Red river to the Gulf should be protected by an efficient system of outlets, which is practicable because the country south of there inclines towards the Gulf with no highlands intervening.

For some distance above the mouth of the Washita, on Red River, the deposits from Red River are about six feet thick. Under this deposit it has the color and appearance of the Mississippi bottom lands. This proves that Red River has not always occupied its present channel and united its waters with the Mississippi, but made its way south into the Gulf from some point above. Because if Red River had run in its present channel and united its waters with the Mississippi during all ages, there never would have been a distinct line of demarkation between the deposits of the two rivers as there is at present. And if Red River ever emptied its waters into the Gulf, it might be made to run there again. If a route could be found free from the blue clay formation, a small channel cut through would soon wear so as to take the whole water, as it would reach the Gulf in less than one half the distance that it does at present.

Now if the waters of Red River, including the Washita, were diverted from their present channel, and be made to empty their waters into the Gulf, the waters of the Mississippi below could be controlled comparatively easy, because it is the waters of Red River, in conjunction with the high waters of the Mississippi from above, that have proved the most disastrous to the country below.

There would be a great amount of local opposition to this plan, as it would destroy many of their improvements; the plantations on the bends cut off would cause extensive cavings for a time on account of its reverting or changing the current of the river. But the low lands of the Mississippi Valley cannot be permanently reclaimed without injuring private property more or less. But these objections are slight in comparison to the advantages to be derived.

P. O. Hebert, one of the Board of Levee Commissioners appointed under act of Congress, June 22, 1874, says:

"Without entering into tedious and unnecessary details, I would say that the State of Louisiana is in a deplorable condition in regard to protection from inundation. With ruined finances and an impoverished people, the State of Louisiana cannot protect herself from her remorseless enemy, the Mississippi, at its annual high floods. The General Government must come to the rescue, otherwise the fairest and most fertile portion of the Valley of the Mississippi must be abandoned and become depopulated. There is no illusion in this; it is simply a fact."

This statement, without a particle of doubt, represents the true situation of the country in very few words. According to the reports of Gens. Humphreys and Abbott, the inundated region amounts to 20,480,000 acres, which has no equal, either in extent or productive capacity in any other alluvial formation in the world.

The time will come when this portion of our country will be redeemed from the dominion of the water, but levees are a failure, and if relied upon exclusively, forever will be. The farther they are extended up the river the more water will be confined between them, and the higher they will have to be built.

Furthermore, we have no data to go by in regard to their height, for there has never been a great flood in the river since the commencement of the levee system, that there has not extensive crevasses occurred, and thereby settling the river. The number of crevasses which have occurred in the State of Louisiana alone, since 1864, is 198, and some of them destroying from 33,000 to 35,000 feet of levee.

A table in chapter 4, Records of the State Engineer of Louisiana, shows that in eight years between October, 1866, and October, 1874, 107 5-10 miles of levee caved into the Mississippi in the State of Louisiana alone, the total amount of levees being 800 miles.

But granting that the levees can be built so as to be permanent, the lower part of the basin between the river and the hills on each side would still remain a swamp unreclaimed and unreclaimable unless at an expense greater than the value of the lands.

PETER HOLLOWAY.

Monclova, Ohio.

THE EXODUS AGAIN.

It Has Revived, and Promises to Continue—The Destitute Refugees.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Notwithstanding that the Winter season has set in, the exodus fever has broken out again. Since September the class of negros who have come North and West from the Southern States have been chiefly those who have been able to pay their own way, with money on hand to purchase land in the promised Canaan of the oppressed race—Kansas. It is impossible to tell the extent of this emigration, but the number must amount to the thousands. They paid full fare, and passed through the city like any other travelers, and therefore, attracted no attention. But lately the old exodus style of things has re-opened—negro families without property or means, who have raised together enough to come to St. Louis, where they are at a dead lock although their intention is to get to Kansas somehow or other; and when they do get to Kansas they believe their troubles will be at an end. The lull which prevailed in the movement was but temporary. When the accounts for the season's cotton crop are settled it will renew itself, from all accounts, with more energy than before.

The leading colored men of the city are at a loss what to do. The Colored Relief Board are bankrupt, and yet the members are called upon every day for aid.

Yesterday about 30 adult negroes, with twice that number of children, left for Topeka, Kansas. They were able to pay their own way. About 80 more are expected from Tennessee this morning by one of the Anchor Line boats. How they are off financially is not known. At the present time there are 150 to 160 colored people, recently from the South, on their way to Kansas, who are absolutely on the verge of starvation. In a house situated in the alley between Market and Walnut and Third and Fourth streets are over 20 refugees, young and old, all huddled together for warmth, without money, fuel or anything to eat. One father, in order to get something to eat for his children, yesterday had to sell the buffalo robe with which he covered himself at nights. Last evening a dozen of them marched to the laundry office of Chas. W. Prentice, 25 South Six h street, and begged for something to eat.

An emergency meeting of the Colored Relief Board was held last night to discuss the situation. It was found that there was only $2 in the treasury, and that was appropriated to buy something to eat for the starving people to day.

Several scores of negro families, who have arrived during the last two weeks, are living like rats more than human beings along the levee. The bulk of those are from Warren County, Miss. Others are from Madison County, La.

Within the past three days over 300 negroes have passed through St. Louis for Kansas. These were of the independent class. As to their prospects there are contradictory representations. According to some authorities, some negroes in Kansas are starving. But it this were so it is strange that the Relief Board of St. L[illegible] which, since the 17th of March [illegible]ded over $10,000 in their transi[illegible]on to the West, has not received [illegible]ation of any such fate. The day [illegible] yesterday Mr. Tandy, one of the [illegible] of the Board received a letter from Prof. R. T. Greener, of Washington, D. C., giving a most favorable account of the condition of the refugees who had settled in the places he visited, and he had just made a tour through the greater part of the State.

The feeling of the negroes in the matter is known by the statement of one who came here the other day from Copiah County, Miss., that in his section whole Counties of colored people were "fixing up" to leave. The Relief Board here has received information that 7,000 people are arranging to leave from along the line of the railroad between Grenada and Pearl Springs, Miss. They are now bargaining for chartering cars. It is said that while the wages for cotton picking and the price of cotton have advanced along the river and the railroad country, the rates are at a standstill in the interior. Within the next two weeks it is expected that from 5,000 to 6,000 refugees will land in St. Louis, all on their way to Kansas. A whole colony will come from Hazelton, Miss., which is the headquarters of the exodus. This colony has already bought lands in the southern portion of Kansas, they having made arrangements through the white and colored delegations which went to Kansas last Summer.

As to the emigration to Indiana, it cuts no figure in St. Louis, all the emigrants going right through from North Carolina and Tennessee.

The fever has spread to Arkansas, and the Relief Board has just received information that 500 colored people are on their way to the Northwest from that State.

So urgent is the demand for aid—for the common necessities of life—that the Colored Relief Board of St. Louis feel compelled to make an appeal to the charitably inclined. The members of the Board say that they have been passive as to influencing the exodus; they have neither encouraged it nor discouraged it. But they also say that it is impossible not to extend a helping hand when they see a large number of their race in a destitute condition.

The Stars Did Fall.

J Draper, sr., in Ashville Ægis.

The shower predicted by Prof. Tice to occur at 1 o'clock A. M. on the morning of the 14th of November, occurred on the 16th (Sunday) at from 1 to 3:30 P. M., as observed at Griffin, Pa., by many persons. The day was perfectly clear, and the meteors could only be seen by hiding the sun entirely, thus: Place yourself on the east side of a two-story house with the sun fairly below the top of the roof, when, in a space 20 feet east, north and northwest, they were plainly visible going West. Some were darting, while others moved slowly. Some were large and distinct, while others were small. The tails of some were visible, while the meteors could not be seen at all, appearing as streaks of lightning, only lasting longer. It would have been a sight grand beyond description had it been on a dark, clear night, as there were many—as many as four or five at a time visible in a space of 10 feet square above the top of a two-story building. They were first discovered by a negro boy and reported. I noticed it from 2 to 3:30. It may have continued longer, though not till night.

Three Score and Ten.

Boston Traveller.

A sentence of death passed to-night upon all the men and women who have seen 70 years of life would leave both the Old and the New World to-morrow morning without their greatest intellects and deprive nearly every great nation of its acknowledged leaders. It would take from England her Beaconsfield, from Germany her Bismarck, from Russia her Gortshakoff, from Austria her Andrassy, and from Spain her Castelar. Not less sweeping would be its removals of the literary lights of the time. Of the great English speaking poets on both sides of the Atlantic such a decree would not spare us one. Tennyson, Longfellow, Whittier, Holmes have all passed the Scriptural three score and ten.

EDISON STILL SATISFIED.

His Carbon Loop Lamps Apparently Not Deteriorated by Use so Far.

New York World, 27th.

Edison's principal generator met with the accident of a cross-circuit yesterday, and the many lights which had been burning almost uninterruptedly for several days in his shop necessarily became extinguished. This trifling accident made possible a close examination of the lamps that had been in use. There was no discoloration whatever of the interior of the globes, and loops of the carbon or "baked paper" were very elastic and luminous, thus showing pretty conclusively that there had been no change for the worse in them. Mr. Edison, however, did not break one of the lamps to examine the carbon more closely. He was satisfied that the loop was there.

One of the most interesting details of the lamp is the manner in which the vacuum is maintained. The fine platinum wires that conduct the electricity to the carbon loop pass through the summit of a small air chamber into the vacuum chamber where the loop is, and at this point the glass is firmly welded to the wires. As both the glass and the platinum have the same expansibility under heat, there is no danger of their separating and destroying the vacuum. The walls of the small air chamber and of the larger vacuum chamber which contains it are continuous at the lower part.

Edison said yesterday that he is having six new generators made for Menlo Park, and intends to add lamps of which he makes about 25 a day, to those already in use. He believed the lamp would not need any material modification. Those in his shops he intends to run continuously for about a month, which will be equal to six months' average use. If they are as good at the end of that time as they were at first, and show no variation in the resistance of the carbon loop, he will be satisfied that each lamp will last for at least four or five years. The advantage of the carbon prepared from paper or cardboard is, he says, that it is as pure as the carbon of the diamond, and that it is of a fibrous nature, the fibers interlocking. Many other forms of carbon commonly used in electrical experiments are formed by the admixture of powdered carbon with some paste, to give them the proper consistency. They are, therefore, neither pure nor homogenous. Edison gets eight lights net per horse power from his generator, and as the machine is about four horse power, he can get 32 lights from it. The lights in any one circuit may be of any number, because more than one generator may be placed in the circuit. "main," as he calls it, will consist of a bundle of copper wires not insulated with regard to each other; that is, the bundle will be the same as a solid copper rod. The main will be "tapped" for each lamp with the main at a convenient point. The main will decrease in diameter as it recedes from the generator by the termination from point to point of the wires making up the bundle. Edison says that exact calculations have been made of the cost of lighting by his system as compared with the cost of lighting by gas, but that he is not allowed to be more explicit than to say that however cheaply gas may be sold the electric light can be furnished more cheaply still.

Experiments have been made at the West Side Driving Park with a new insulating compound for telegraphic wires, which is designed to do away with poles and to enable the wires to be hid underground without loss by induction.

A KING'S LIFE.

How Alfonso Gets Through His Day.

Madrid Cor. New York Herald.

At Madrid His Majesty has rather a monotonous life. He rises late, and his first care is to bathe his face carefully in Barege water to counteract the effects of a cutaneous affection which he inherits from his mother. Then after swallowing innumerable sweet biscuits and two large cups of chocolate, he pays a visit to his stable; then presides at a cabinet council, signs some decrees, and spends the afternoon and evening riding or driving about the capital, always accompanied by his sister, the widowed countess Girgenti, now styled Princess of Asturias, and the one person whom the King will not take any step without consulting. His Majesty bows to all indiscriminately, whether they bow to him or not; but he has two different ways of acknowledging a salution. If a passer-by bends low before him the King will hardly raise his hat; but, on the other hand, he bares his head whenever he meets a churish republican, whose manner is the reverse of courteous, and who only condescends merely to notice his sovereign. When court mourning does not prevent him from doing so, the King, accompanied, of course, by his sister, goes regularly almost every evening to the theater or opera, and every Saturday at sunset he repairs with his sister and all the court to the Church of Atocha to hear the "salve." His Majesty is a great newspaper reader. French novels are his favorite literature, and such, alas! as are considered "light reading" even in Paris. A gentlemen of His Majesty's bed-chamber affirms that the following well-known works are always to be found by the King's bedside: "Mlle. Giraud, Ma femme;" "Beaudelaire's "Poems," and "Le Chevalier de Faublas." In the first rank of His courtiers must be placed the Marquis de Alcanices and Duc de Sesto. The duke is of the very highest Castilian nobility, performs the functions of Chef du Palais at Madrid, and after the Princess of Asturias, of course, possesses more influence over the King than any one else. "Pope Alcanices," as he is familiarly termed by his friends, married the widow of the late Duc de Moray, *nee* Troubetzkoi, and is one of the dandies of Madrid. He is small of stature and it would seem as if, like the hero of Namouna as described by De Mussett, his mother "made him little that she might make him with care." He is a great patron of bull fighting.

Presence of Mind on a Locomotive.

Accidents are prevented by a lightning like application of presence of mind on the part of the engineer. A hundred instances of remarkable presence of mind might be cited in this connection. A passenger train on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy road was rounding a sharp curve, just under a patch of tall timber. The watchful engineer saw a tree lying across the track 60 feet ahead of the locomotive. The train was running at a speed of 35 miles per hour, and to check its momentum before reaching the obstruction was out of the question. The engineer took in the situation at a glance. He threw the throttle wide open, and the engine shot ahead with the velocity of an arrow, and with such tremendous force that the tree was picked up by the cow catcher and flung from the track as if it had been only a weed or a willow withe. A man with not so cool a head would have made the best possible use of those 60 feet in the way of checking the speed of the train. That would have caused a disaster. Sam Bradford, one of the best engineer's in the country, was bringing an express train over the Kankakee line from Indianapolis. As the engine shot out from a deep cut and struck a short piece of straight track leading to a bridge, a herd of colts were discovered running at full tilt down the road. The distance to the river was only 100 feet. Sam knew he couldn't stop the train and also knew that if the colts beat the locomotive to the bridge they would fall between the timbers and the obstruction would throw the train off and probably result in a fearful loss of life. It took him only half a second to think of all this. The other half of the second was utilized in giving his engine a quantity of steam that it covered that 100 feet of track in about the same time that a bolt of lightning would travel from the tip of a lightning rod to the ground. The colts were struck and hurled down the embankment just as they were entering the bridge.

An Irishman was accused of stealing a handkerchief of a fellow traveler, but the owner, on finding it, apologized to Pat, and said that it was a mistake. "Arrah, my jewel," retorted Pat, "it was a two-sided mistake—you took me for a thief, and I took you for a gentleman."

SPECKLED SNAKE.

That Eloquent Indian's Speech in Behalf of the Creeks, Fifty Years Ago.

Cincinnati Gazette.

At a council of the chiefs, head men and warriors of the Creek Nation, convened by authority, the talk of the President was communicated by the Agent. After a profound silence of many minutes' duration, Speckled Snake, a warrior whose head was whitened with the frosts of more than 100 Winters, and who supported himself on the shoulders of two young men, arose and spoke as follows:

"BROTHERS: We have heard of the talk of our Great Father; it is very kind; he says he loves his red children.

Brothers! I have listened to many talks from our Great Father. When he first came over the wide waters, he was but a little man and wore a red coat. Our chiefs met him on the banks of the River Savannah and smoked with him the pipe of peace. He was then very little. His legs were cramped by sitting long in his big boat, and he begged a little land to light his fire on. He said he had come over the wide waters to teach the indians new things and make them happy. He said he loved his red brothers—he was very kind. The Muscogees gave the white man land and kindled him a fire, that he might warm himself, and when his enemies, the pale faces of the South, made war on him, their young men drew the tomahawk and protected his head from the scalping knife. But when the white man had warmed himself by the Indian's fire and filled himself with their hominy, he became very large. With a step he bestrode the mountains, and his feet covered the plains and valleys. His hands grasped the eastern and western seas, and his head rested on the moon. Then he became our Great Father. He loved his red children, and he said: "Get a little further, lest I tread on thee." With one foot he pushed the red man over the Oconee, and with the other he trampled down the graves of his fathers and the forests where he had so long hunted his deer. But our Great Father still loved his red children, and he soon made them another talk. He said: "Get a little further; you are too near me." But there were some bad men among the Muscogees then as there are now. They lingered around the graves of their ancestors till they were crushed beneath the heavy tread of our Great Father. Their teeth pierced his feet and made him angry. Yet he continued to love his red children, and when he found them too slow in moving, he sent his great guns before him to sweep his path.

Brothers! I have listened to a great many talks from our Great Father, but they always began and ended in this: "Get a little further, you are too near me."

Brothers! Our Great Father says that where we are now our white brothers have always claimed the land. He speaks with a straight tongue and cannot lie. But when he first came over the wide waters, while he was yet small, and stood before the great chief at the council on Yamacraw Bluff, he said: "Give me a little land, which you can spare, and I will pay you for it."

Brothers! When our Great Father made us a talk on a former occasion, and said, "Get a little further. Go beyond the Oconee, the Ocmulgee, there is a pleasant country," we also said it shall be yours forever.

I have listened to his present talk. He says the land where we now live is not ours. Go beyond the Mississippi—there is game, and you may remain while the grass grows and the water runs.

Brothers! Will not our Great Father come there also? He loves his red children. He speaks with a straight tongue, and will not he?

Brothers! Our Great Father says our bad men have made his heart bleed for the murder of one of his white children. Yet where are the red children which he loves, once as numerous as the leaves of the forest? How many have been crushed by his own footsteps?

Brothers! Our Great Father says we must go beyond the Mississippi. We shall there be under his care and experience his kindness. We have felt it all before.

Brothers! I have done.

"Unconsidered Trifles."

—Shakespeare.

New York World.

The time has finally come when it is not considered a joke to steal a man's umbrella but a part of one's duty toward his hat.

* * *

When you find a good candidate—stick a pin in him.

* * *

The best serpent charmer—the successful vermifuge.

* * *

A pickpocket—the one in which the toothpicks are carried.

* * *

Spurgeon claims to have preached 1,500 sermons without turning the barrel.

* * *

"I think the turkey has the advantage of you," said the landlady to the inexpert boarder who was carving. "Guess it has, Mum—in age."

* * *

Did Cleopatra die of aspma?—*Ex.* This is a venomous question. Cleopatra died trying to viper chin off.

* * *

Why shouldn't bald-headed bachelors be in favor of the Turkish hair 'em?

* * *

The lamp-posts are getting uneasy at the approach of New Year's Day.

* * *

A Western editor says one hug is worth a dozen love letters, and they cannot be introduced as evidence in a breach of promise suit.

* * *

A house without newspapers is like a house without windows.

* * *

"It's cool to-day," said a mother to her little son. "Yes, it's school five days of the week," replied the embryonic paragraphist.

His Sentiments.

Detroit Free Press.

On a Grand River car the other day, a lady suddenly discovered that she had lost her purse. The other passengers consisted of an old man and six women. Three of the women chuckled at the loss, two whispered to each other that they didn

Answers to Correspondents.

We are obliged to remind our readers that there are certain classes of questions which we cannot undertake to answer, viz.:

1. Those not accompanied by the name of the writer. The name is not required for publication, but only as an evidence of good faith. All letters not complying with this rule find their way at once into the waste-basket.

2. Mathematical problems, and questions in grammatical construction. We are willing to give all our readers an opportunity to ask and answer the former, but we have not the type necessary for publishing algebraic problems and solutions.

3. Questions which in the judgment of the editor are not appropriate or proper for the columns of the BLADE. Hundreds of questions come to this department every week, and the editor must be allowed to exercise his discretion in making selections calculated to promote the general interest.

4. Inquiries as to the standing or reliability of individuals, firms, or corporations, doing a general business. The BLADE'S endorsement is too valuable to be bestowed indiscriminately, and it is not always possible for us to devote the time necessary to ascertain the standing of an individual or a firm located in a distant part of the country.

Correspondents whose inquiries are not answered within a reasonable time would do well to repeat them. If they still fail to receive an answer they are asked to believe that the questions remain unanswered for good and sufficient reasons.

We must request that subscribers will keep all communications for the business and editorial departments of the BLADE entirely separate and distinct, always upon separate leaves. Questions for this department should never be written on the same leaf with letters containing subscriptions or orders for books.

SUBSCRIBER, Mechanicsburg, O.: Not that we are aware of.

J. A. S., Toledo, O.: Read instructions at head of this department.

H. H. B., Montpelier, O.: See paragraphs at head of this department.

H. P. W., Louisa, Wis: We do not at present club with "Littell's Living Age."

J. E. H., Crow River, Minn.: Write to R. M. Dewitt, 33 Rose street, New Dork City.

J. F. P., Lewisport, Ky.: We regret to say that we do not handle the book named.

G. W. C., Merriam, Ind.: Address Turf, Field and Farm, 27 Park Row, New York City.

W. N., Tipton, Ioa.: We are sorry that we have no data of the kind named available.

W. T. McG., Wheeling, Mo.: Write to S. K. Harsfield, Times Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

L. G. L., De Golia, Pa.: 1. Probably of G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York. 2. Joseph Cook is a "reverend."

J. F. LUSBY, Sarcoxie, Mo., wishes the address of Daniel B. Meany, who was Chaplain of Co. B, 13th Pa. Cav.

F. D. M., Fairfield, Ia. wishes to know who was Captain of the 2d and 10th Michigan Cavalry in the late war.

J. M. F., Pleasant Lake, Ind.: You can get what you want by writing to Little, Brown & Co., Boston, Mass.

C. R. M., Little Sauk, Minn.: Address the Traveler, Jacksonville, the Dispatch, Key West, or the Patriot, Tallahassee, Fla.

Mrs. H. C. C., Riverside, Mich.: The Lakeside Library has been discontinued. Address the Seaside Library, New York City, which will fill all orders.

MRS. SAMUEL M. WARNER, Toledo, O., wishes to learn the address of any of the officers or privates belonging to Company C, Fourth Reg. Cal. Inft.

A. L. M., Porter's Falls, W. Va.: The gentleman you name is not especially distinguished outside his own State, as a lawyer, politician or public speaker.

POLITICIAN, Decatur, Ioa., asks: 'Are greenbacks subject to taxation for State, County and Municipal purposes, the same as national currency?'—They are not taxable.

T. N. KERR, Toledo, O., asks: "Will some one give me through these columns the address of F. W. Kerr? When last heard from he was in Blackhawk, Blackhawk Mines, Colorado."

L. D. S., Nilwood, Ill.: 1. Gen. Sheridan's present address is Chicago, Ill. 2. Gen. Porter was dismissed for alleged disobedience of orders in the face of the enemy at Bull Run.

GEORGE W. HAYNES, Maples, Ind., wishes to obtain the address of any person belonging to Co. I, 34 Ohio Vol. Heavy Artillery that was in the same accident that Lieut. Smith was killed in.

H. N. H., Carlisle, Mich., asks: "Will you be so kind as to tell me through your columns the date of the reign of King Louis Philippe?"—His reign extended from August, 1830, to February, 1848.

T. J. G., Emporia, Kan.: Write to A. H. Evans & Co., May Building, Washington, D. C. The total cost of obtaining a patent, including attorney's and Government fees, will range from $60 upward, but the amount named is about the average cost.

C. W. MCA., Berlin, O.: The present Governor General of Canada is his Excellency the Marquis of Lorne, son-in-law of Her Majesty Victoria, Empress of India and Queen of Great Britain and Ireland. He will probably continue to hold that position during the pleasure of his mother-in-law, the Queen.

OSCAR, Swan Creek, O., asks: "1. Please explain the principles and rules regulating poetical composition. 2. Is there any law preventing one composer from following the stanza invented or adopted by another?"—Buy some good work on composition and rhetoric, such as Quackenbos. 2. There is not.

JAMES GRAY, Readsville, Mo., wishes some of the readers of the BLADE to inform him where either or all of the following named persons may be found: Dr. Moore, Dr. Skinner, Martin Young, S. L. Howell, Capt. Canten Dryden; all formerly of the 16th Iowa Vol. Inf.

A. L. SNOWDEN, Keithsburg, Ill., asks: "Do any of the BLADE readers know the whereabouts of Col. A. H. Dugan, who was a prisoner in a Texas prison during the greater part of the rebellion, and who afterwards wrote and published his experience in a Rebel prison? When last heard from he was in New York City.

G. W. S., Bealsville, O., asks: "Is there an institution in our State called a Reform School for Incorrigible Youths? If so, where located, and are boys admitted at any age prior to their majority, for incorrigibility?"—The school you name is located at Lancaster. We believe boys are not admitted after their 16th year.

R. SEARSON, Saratoga, Kan., writes to say that Pratt County, in which he resides, is one of the newly organized Counties of Kansas, admirably adapted to agriculture, while the Ninnescah river in the central part of the County affords admirable facilities for water power. He will be glad to furnish information regarding that portion of Kansas to any parties who may address him.

C. G., Ham's Prairie, Mo., asks: "1. Is there a paper published in the Indian Territory? If so, give the publisher's address. 2. Is there a medical journal published in Iowa?"—1. There are six papers published in the Indian Territory. The leading ones are the Cherokee Advocate, published at Tahlequah, and the Independent, published at Atoka. 2. We know of no medical journal published in Iowa.

R. S. W., Sibley, Ill., asks: "Please give the native State of each President of the United States."—Washington, Virginia; John Adams, Massachusetts; Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Virginia; J. Q. Adams, Massachusetts; Jackson, South Carolina; Van Buren, New York; Harrison and Tyler, Virginia; Polk, North Carolina; Taylor, Virginia; Fillmore, New York; Pierce, New Hampshire; Buchanan, Pennsylvania; Lincoln, Kentucky; Johnson, North Carolina; Grant and Hayes, Ohio.

R. S. M., Marshall, Mich., asks: "What was the doctrine of Metempsychosis?"—According to the ancients, the doctrine of Metempsychosis was a belief in the transmigration of the soul from one body to another. It was of Egyptian origin, and that peculiar people would eat no animal flesh for fear that they should consume the body into which the soul of some deceased friend has passed. They also had an idea that so long as the body remained entire the soul would not leave it, and hence their extraordinary care to embalm their dead.

J. W. S., Oak Ridge, O.: Gen. Thomas H. Ewing organized the Eleventh Regiment Kansas Vols., in September, 1862, was assigned to the command of the Department of the Border in June, 1863, assigned to the command of the St. Louis District in March, 1864, was breveted for gallant conduct at Pilot Knob, Mo., and resigned March 12, 1864. It is very doubtful whether you can ever obtain a copy of Ohlo in the War, as it is virtually out of print. It was published in Cincinnati by what was then (1868) the firm of Moore, Wilstach & Baldwin.

A. B. G., Wayland, Mo., asks: "Will you please give the recipe for the whitewash which is used on the White House at Washington?"—We have published this recipe once or twice already, and trust that all our readers who have made this inquiry will cut this out and preserve it: Take a half bushel of unslaked lime, and slake it with boiling hot water, covering it during the process. Strain it and add a peck of salt, dissolved in warm water, and three pounds of ground rice, boiled to thin paste; put in, boiling hot, half a pound of Spanish whiting, and a pound of clear glue dissolved in warm water. Mix and let it stand for several days; then keep it in a kettle on a portable furnace, and put it on as hot as possible with a paint or whitewash brush.

F. E. S., Allegan Mich.: We give you the figures of the National debt on the first of July of each year since the close of the rebellion, from which you may do the figuring for yourself. As you will see, the debt has not been decreased every year during that time. On the 1st of July, 1865, the debt was $2,680,647,869; July 1, 1866, $2,773,236,172; 1867, $2,678,126,103; 1868, $2,611,687,851; 1869, $2,588,452,213; 1870, $2,480,672,427; 1871, $2,353,211,332; 1872, $2,253,251,328; 1873, $2,234,482,993; 1874, $2,251,690,468; 1875, $2,232,284,531; 1876, $2,180,395,067; 1877, $2,205,301,392; 1878, $2,256,226,502. 2. The American Encyclopedia is published by D. Appleton & Co., New York; its cost is from $6 to $12 per volume, 16 volumes in a set.

A. ERAMER, Golden Gate, Minn., asks: "Will you please explain how West Virginia became a State without the consent of the Legislature of Virginia, from which it became dismembered? 2. The Constitution provides that no new State shall be formed within the jurisdiction of another State without the consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned. Query: What States?"—The State of West Virginia was formed out of that portion of the old State of Virginia which refused to secede. In point of fact the old State separated from the new rather than the new from the old. The action of the loyal Counties of Virginia, taken under these circumstances, and resulting in the establishment of a separate State government, has never been invalidated. 2. It is evident that an effort might be made to form a new State out of parts of two others, in which case the language of the Constitution would be pertinent.

G. S. G., Beaver, Pa., asks: "Will you please explain how much pressure is employed in driving the sand blast used for engraving glass, etc. Will the sand blast cut other substances equally well?"—1. In the ordinary sand blast, a stream of fine sand is impelled through a blowpipe at a pressure from 50 to 500 pounds per square inch. The effect of this current of sand striking an object with such force can be readily imagined. To produce an engraving the glass is shifted into the various positions corresponding with the outlines of the picture. 2. In an experiment with a superior kind of sand blast a hole an inch and a half in diameter and of the same depth was bored through a piece of corundum in a little less than half an hour, the same being driven at a steam jet at 500 pounds pressure per square inch. A diamond was easily reduced in weight, and a topaz completely dissipated in one minute. Patterns of objects may be laid upon the glass in the manner of stencil plates, and engraved with great facility.

C. F. B., Brushy, Ind., asks: "I enclose you a copy of Mr. Weaver's 'bill for the relief of soldiers and sailors who served in the army and navy during the late war for the suppression of the rebellion, etc.' Do all the soldiers get more pay according to this bill?"—Substantially, yes. That is to say, Mr. Weaver's bill (which is several steps from becoming a law) proposes to give each soldier an amount equal to the difference, at the date of payment, between the gold value of the legal tender and the currency value of the same. It also provides for the issue of five hundred millions of legal tender United States notes to meet the additional debt thus created. We have already discussed elsewhere the desirability of this measure, but only take space to add here that the issue of five hundred millions of additional legal tenders would serve to complicate the currency question so seriously as to destroy all that has been done in the way of restoring it to a stable basis; and by the depreciation probable on its issue would utterly fail to give the soldier that which it proposes to give, viz: the gold value of the difference between currency and coin during the rebellion.

C. P. M., Foster's Falls, W. Va., asks: "Will you please explain the principle on which life insurance is based?" Life insurance rates are based upon tables of mortality, calculated with great care, and extending over a period of years. These tables show that of a given number of persons at any age which may be named, a certain portion will die every year, and by taking a term of years together, the average number of deaths does not differ materially from the number in any one year. It will be easy to see that if ten people agree to create a fund to pay a certain sum to the heirs of as many of the number as may die during the year, the sum due from each one will depend on the number who will receive through their heirs the benefits of the agreement. Here the Insurance Company steps in and by calculations based upon these tables, together with an allowance for interest, expenses, etc., fixes the sum for which it will pay the order of the insured $1,000 at his death. Of course there are a number of supplemental question which go to determine the rates of insurance, among which is the age of the applicant, but the above is the main question in calculations of this character.

H. M. E., Wabash, Ind., asks: "Will you please give a brief sketch of Beatrice Cenci?"—This famous historical character, born 1583, died 1599, was the daughter of Francisco Cenci, remarkable for his wealth and debauchery. She is sometimes called "the fair parricide." Through the conduct of her brothers and a long course of events which it is needless to relate, Francisco came to hate his children, and with a fiendish cruelty plotted their ruin. The brothers escaped from their father's pursuit for a time, and the current of his fury was turned against Beatrice and her sister. The latter, by the Pope's command, was given in marriage to a gentleman of Gubbio. Her father's rage was terrible, and from that time commenced the episode of his life with which his daughter Beatrice's name is inseparable, and the appalling circumstances of which will not bear repetition. Saddened by her wrongs, she sought vengeance on this unnatural parent, and on September 9, 1598, her two servants slew Francisco in his bed by driving a long nail through the ear into the brain, making assurance doubly sure by driving another through the throat. The crime was undiscovered for some time, but by various sources came to the light, when one of the servants died rather than criminate his beloved mistress. The other was put to the torture and confessed, and on the 11th of September, 1599, Beatrice was beheaded and afterwards buried in the Church of San Pietro, in Montorio.

A. L. S., Keithsburg, Ill., asks: "Will you please give a brief biography of Capt. Cook, the great navigator?"—Capt. James Cook the celebrated navigator, was born of poor parents at Mason, England, in 1728. He followed the sea in the coal trade for several years, and had attained the position of mate, when he became a volunteer in the royal navy in 1755. He served as master of a sloop in the capture of Quebec by Wolfe in 1759, and displayed great skill in the construction of a chart of the river from Quebec to the sea. In 1764 he was appointed Marine Surveyor of New Foundland, and four years later he was selected by the government to the South Pacific to observe the transit of Venus, and make discoveries in geography and other sciences. In 1772 he was again sent with two vessels to search for a southern continent. He circumnavigated the globe in high southern latitudes, without finding the continent sought for, but discovered a large island which he named New Caledonia. In 1776 he sailed on a third voyage in search of a northern passage between the Atlantic & Pacific, and in 1778 he discovered the Sandwich Islands, explored Behrings Strait, and advanced northward as far as the 70th degree. He returned to winter at the Sandwich Islands, and one of the ship's boats having been stolen by the natives of Hawaii, he was killed in an attempt to recover it, on the 14th of February, 1779.

A WASHINGTONIAN writes: "In reply to A. H. S.'s questions in regard to farmer's wages in Washington Territory, I would say: Times are very dull this Fall on the Sound, on account of the lumber market being so poor. Lumbering is the main business at this time on the Sound, and when that is down everything else is depressed with it. There are thousands of men here who depend on the mills and logging camps for their living, and at this time there are but few camps or mills running; the consequence is hard times, and the farmer feels it as well as the laborer. Farm hands in the Cashalis Valley this season have got from $18 to $20 a month. This is not a farming country, strictly speaking. Farmers generally raise enough wheat for their bread and a few rutabagas for their cows, and have the rest of their land in meadow. Grass pays better than anything else here, and it don't take many hands to do the work on a large farm. A good milker can get $25 at the dairies for milking cows, about six months in the year. Dairying is carried on rather extensively in this part of the Territory. This is a very healthy country, and a young man who is willing to work can make enough to live on and take a homestead, and when he can't get work he can improve his land, and in a few years have a good home. But he must make up his mind to stick to it. A great many come here and stay a few months, get homesick and go back to the States. We have rain in the winter, but no cold, windy weather. The timber is most all evergreen, and it never seems like winter. The roads are very bad during the rainy season. It will cost about $75 from Omaha to Olympia. You will come to San Francisco by rail, and from there to Olympia; you can come by way of Victoria by ocean steamer, or you can come by Astoria to Portland, Or., and from there by rail to Olympia. The cost is about the same."

A. F. N., Farmland, Ind., asks: "Will you please give a brief sketch of the life of Charles Dickens, the novelist?"—Charles Dickens was born in Portsmouth, England, in 1812. He was what would generally be described as a self-educated man. His father was a clerk in the navy pay office. At the age of 9 Charles was sent out to earn six shillings a week in a blacking warehouse, tying blue covers on pots of paste blacking. For two years the child led a very hard, uncared-for life at this uncongenial work. He was a very precocious boy, had read many books, and had formed an ambition to be a "learned and distinguished man." He was a singularly observant child, and what he saw and read did not slide over his mind like water over marble; it found congenial soil, and fell into it as seed. At the age of 15 he was engaged as office boy by an attorney in Gray's Inn at a salary of 13 shillings a week. He mastered the difficulties of short-hand, and in 1828 obtained employment as reporter in Doctors' Commons. His first published piece of original writing appeared in the Old Monthly Magazine for January, 1834. He next wrote sketches for the Morning Chronicle. In 1836 he published "Sketches by Boz," and the same year he began the "Pickwick Papers," and by 1837 Pickwick had become a popular hero, and Sam Weller's sayings were catchwords in the street. In the first excitement of success the young author's appetite for work was unbounded. In 1837 he wrote his monthly instalments of the "Pickwick Papers" and "Oliver Twist" side by side. Between 1838 and 1839 he produced "Nicholas Nickleby." Then followed the "Old Curiosity Shop," "Barnaby Rudge," the "American Notes," "Martin Chuzzlewit," "Dombey and Son," "Pictures from Italy," "David Copperfield," "Bleak House," "Little Dorrit," "Our Mutual Friend," "Hard Times," "A Tale of Two Cities," "The Uncommercial Traveler," "Great Expectations," and when overtaken in 1870 by death he was engaged on "The Mysteries of Edwin Drood." He gave four series of readings in 1858-59, 1861-63, 1865-67, and 1868-70, appearing in nearly every town of any size in Great Britain; and in 1867-68 renewing in this way his acquaintance in this country, which he visited before in 1842. He was buried in Westminster Abbey June 14, 1870.

J. B. L., Mt. Vernon, Ill., writes: "In the BLADE, lately, R. P. D., Oakwood, Dak., asks the same old question, 'Who was Melchisedec?' and the editor gives the same old answer, which leaves us as we were. Paul, in his epistle to the Hebrews, calls us to consider the 'Apostle and High Priest of our profession,' and calls him 'Christ Jesus,' and compares him to Moses; see Hebrew 3:1 and 2. He explains that there was one of old called Melchisedec, who was Priest of the most High God, who was a King and blest Abraham; 'King of Righteousness, King of Salem, which is King of Peace. Neither had he the beginning of days nor end of life; like unto the Son of God, *abideth a priest* continually.' Paul repeats the word 'consider,' and says *now* consider. Who then was Melchisedec? Mr. Editor, *consider now* the characteristics of Christ and Melchisedec, and see the difference, if you can (?) Melchisedec a Priest of the most High God; so is Christ Jesus. Without beginning of days or end of life; so with Christ. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God—John 1:1. King of Peace; so is Christ, King of Kings, etc.; Melchisedec abideth a priest continually; so does Christ. And the more I 'consider' him the more I see the similarity—yea, the identity. Could the Son of God lie in the earth in the days of Abraham? Yes. Melchisedec brought bread and wine to Abraham.' See Gen., 14:18 So did Christ. See Math. 26:26, Mark 14:42, Luke 12:19. Melchisedec to Abraham *before*, Christ to Abraham's children *after*. "Abideth a priest continually.' 'Consider' this: if he (Melchisedec) abideth a priest continually, and Christ is our High Priest, then they are identical, or there are two of the same office, rank and work. 'Consider' the High Priesthood; the form of the Son of God was seen in the furnace with the Hebrews. Can we say it was not our Christ, or that Melchisedec 'After the order of Melchisedec.' 'Consider' the order of the priesthood. As before, so now and on forever, the order is the same (mode of procedure); all is done for the sinners. There were sinners in Abraham's day; the same rank, office, priest, etc., were necessary then as now; sin was then what it is now—a transgression of the law.' Atonement was and is necessary in all ages—could not do without the High Priest, could not make the pattern of heavenly sanctuary with its Most Holy place and its Ark of the Covenant, priestly services, etc., unless they existed. Nothing pertained to the sanctuary services but what was a pattern of the same like services in the heavenly. I do not consider Paul as comparing Jesus to Melchisedec, but declaring the high Priesthood continued in the same process, after the same manner, not changed as it relates to Melchisedec and Jesus, but continual and of a higher order than that of Aaron. This is not written for a controversy, but to give an answer to the question a thousand times repeated, and answered the same. If the above does not satisfy the readers of the BLADE, let them again 'consider' the Priesthood, and reconsider until they can give a better answer, and oblige the inquiring. As for me, I am satisfied. 'Who was Melchisedec? The Son of God on earth in form, as man for a purpose, 'who abideth a priest *continually*.'"

American Superstitions.

Saturday Review.

The following superstitions, handed down by tradition are yet fervently believed in many parts of America: White specks on the nails are luck. Whoever reads epitaphs loses his memory. To rock the cradle when empty is injurious to the child. To eat while a bell is tolling for a funeral causes toothache. The crowing of a hen indicates some approaching disaster. When a mouse gnaws a gown some misfortune may be apprehended. He who has teeth wide asunder must seek his fortune in some distant land. Whoever finds a four leaf trefoil—shamrock—should wear it for good luck. Beggar's bread should be given to children who are slow in learning to speak. If a child less than 12 months old be brought into a cellar he becomes fearful. When children play soldiers on the roadside it forebodes the approach of war. A child grows proud if suffered to look into a mirror while less than 12 months old.

A Funny Blunder

Boston Herald.

The *Post* has discovered a ludicrous transposition in the make up of a couple of telegraphic items in the New Haven *Journal and Courier*, which produced the following effect: The first item read: "A large cast iron wheel, revolving 900 times per minute, exploded in that City yesterday, after a long and painful illness. Deceased was a prominent 32d degree Mason." This was followed by the second item, which read: "John Fadden, the well known florist and real estate broker of Newport, R. I., died in Wardner & Russell's sugar mill at Crystal Lake, Ill., on Saturday, doing $3,000 damage to the building, and injuring several workmen and Lorenzo Wilcox fatally."

Blaine's Strength

New York Times.

If Mr. Blaine's strength among the Republican masses bore any relation to his strength among the politicians, there might be some better cause for jubilation among his adherents. But it happens that since the *Times* canvassed the political sentiment of the country last Spring, the predominance of feeling in favor of the then favorite Republican candidate for the Presidency has increased instead of diminishing.

The Sunday School.

Jesus Baptized by John.

LESSON 3, SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 1880.

GOLDEN TEXT.—And lo a voice from Heaven, saying, this is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased—Matt. 3; 47.

LESSON TEXT.

Matt. 3: 1-17.

1. In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 2 And saying, Repent ye; for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand. 3. For this is he that is spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying: The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his path straight. 4. And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey. 5. Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judea, and all the region round about Jordan. 6. And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins. 7. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8. Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance. 9. And think not to say within yourselves: We have Abraham for our father, for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. 10. And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the tree: therefore, every tree that bringeth forth not good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire. 11. I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance; but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear; he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire: 12. Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into his garner, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire; 13. Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. 14. But John forbade him saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? 15. And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now, for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him. 16. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water, and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: 17. And lo, a voice from Heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

ILLUSTRATIVE APPLICATIONS.

In those days came John . . . preaching in the wilderness (v. 1). John didn't wait to be "called" to a fashionable synagogue. He didn't go as a "candidate" from one synagogue to another, looking up a people who liked his style as a preacher. He had a message from God to sinners and wherever he found sinners he gave them God's message, whether they went to the synagogue or not. John was a peculiar man and a peculiar preacher. There is no doubt about that. He was peculiarly inspired. He had a peculiar mission. He lived in a peculiar time. There was a peculiar state of things in the church and in the world just then. His way would not be deemed exactly suited to the present age. Indeed, there is little danger of its being generally adopted by preachers of to-day. But the need of wilderness and wayside preaching has not yet passed away. There are sinners outside of the regular congregation who ought to hear God's message. If the gospel is not proclaimed except to those who come into our Churches and Sunday-schools asking to hear it, a great many will be as badly off as before John the Baptist began his work. Even if John himself would be out of place among us in this generation, there is an evident opening for christian service very much in his line of effort. Who will undertake it?

Saying repent ye (v. 2). If a preacher doesn't tell sinners of their danger and duty, what is he good for? His business is one of warning and directing, not of complimenting and soothing. He is sent of God to show lost men how to be saved. It is not for him to talk as if they had never been lost, or as if they were already saved. A physician would be worse than worthless if he should try to merely comfort his patients, instead of showing them a way of cure. It would be as bad as murder for a man to shrink from alarming the inmates of a burning house at midnight, instead of crying, "Fire! fire! turn out, you're all afire!" "Repent ye!" is the preacher's fitting call to sinners. "God . . . commandeth all men everywhere to repent." "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." God's messenger ought to repeat God's message fearlessly and faithfully. And sinners are not unaware of this truth. They sometimes have it in mind when the preacher seems to have forgotten it. Smooth words from a preacher do not command attention like plain words. Even if a preacher thinks that his hearers are in no need of repentance, they know better. In the long run the faithful, earnest preacher is the trusted preacher. If, indeed you find a preacher anywhere whom the multitude are always ready to listen to, whose message seems to reach nigh and low alike, and who holds the interest of his hearers unfailingly, you may be sure that he gives prominence to the message of John in the wilderness, "Repent ye." The preacher of soft words is out of place among sinners in the wilderness (v. 3).

Prepare ye the way of the Lord (v. 3). God doesn't need man's help in anything; but he chooses to call for it in a great many things. And when man does have a place for man's work, man must do his part—or take the consequences. God is ready to give a crop to the farmer; but he calls on the farmer to plow and plant and harrow and hoe in preparing the way for God's sun and shower, and power of increase. If the farmer fails to so prepare the way of the Lord for a harvest, he must prepare for a famine—or starve. God is ready to give a blessing on our homes; but we must prepare the way of the Lord for a blessing there, by our love, and our faithfulness, and our industry. It is not enough to hang up a framed chromo on the dining-room walls: "God bless our home!" As in the field and in the home, so in our hearts. If we want God's presence and blessing there, we must prepare the way for them. We must plan to find room for the Lord in our hearts. We must make ready to do his bidding. We must decide to give up all habits of life that are inconsistent with his service. We must make a proffer of ourselves, of our time, of our talents, of all our possessions, to the Lord. If we refuse to do this, we must not wonder that whoever else has a blessing we are without it.

Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judea . . . confessing their sins (v. 5, 6). If a preacher could get all go out after the people, the people are more likely to go out after him, he who would be a "drawing" preacher, must first be a "hitching on" preacher. As Dr. Chalmers put it: "A house-going minister makes a church-going people." The way to bring the masses to desire gospel privileges is to carry a spectrum of gospel privileges to the masses. If you would fill up a Sunday-school with scholars, you must fill up the houses and streets round about with kind words, and loving looks, and hearty invitations from dead-in-earnest teachers. And if once the outside sinners turn toward the gospel preacher, or teacher you may be sure they will come "confessing their sins." Not one of them can fix the bible standard of holiness and say: "I am without sin according to that standard." John the Baptist's methods with John the Baptist's message will reach and draw the multitudes if anything will.

Bring forth . . . fruits meet for repentance (v. 8). It is not coming into the inquiry meeting that proves a sinner's penitence; nor is it what he says there about his sorrow for his sins. The real test is in his conduct after he has made his confession of sin. If he has wronged anybody, and now sees it, let him make restitution accordingly. If he has been in an evil course, let him abandon it forthwith, even if brings him to poverty, or to disgrace, to do so. True penitence for sin ought to show itself in fruits that nobody can have any doubt about. The converted man ought to be more honest, more truthful, more generous, more pure, more reverend, than before he was converted. If he sells apples or potatoes, they will now be as good at the bottom of the basket as on top. If he is a carpenter, his contract work will no longer need watching; but it will bear it. As a servant, a clerk, or a husband and father, he will give evidence, in his new life, that he is a changed man—an improved one. His more little things and in larger will bring forth fruit meet for repentance—worthy of his confession of sin, and of his avowed sorrow for it.

Think not to say . . . We have Abraham to our father (v. 9). It is a good thing to have had a good ancestry; but it is not enough of a thing to rest on—for this life or the next one. A godly father, or a praying mother is something to be grateful for; but that in itself will not justify godlessness or a neglect of prayer on the son's part. Yet there is a great deal of this trusting to one's family, or social, or church connections, long since the days of the Pharisees. I tell you," said a reprobate son to a minister who talked with him of his evil course, "I've great faith in my good mother's prayers." And soon after that the wayward son died wretchedly of delirium tremens. Instead of trusting himself to his mother's Saviour, he rested himself on his mother's prayers. John the Baptist warned against such a mistake as that. It is not enough to be a member of the Presbyterian Church, or the Baptist Church, or the Methodist Church, or the Episcopal Church, or the Lutheran Church, or the Roman Catholic Church, or of any other Church. God could raise up members of that denomination out of stones; and members of that denomination can have as little reliance in them as stones that have not been raised up. The question is not, what was your parentage? or To what Church do you belong? but, What is your character? and Whom do you trust for salvation?—*H. Clay Trumbull, in S. S. Times.*

"JIM! OUR JIM!"

A Joyful Thanksgiving to an Old Massachusetts Couple.

An aged couple in Medway, Massachusetts, had a merry Thanksgiving. At the outbreak of the war their only son ran away to sea, and served under Farragut at New Orleans and with Cushing in the Albemarle exploit. Here all trace of the sailor was lost, and it was supposed that he was drowned in the river when the torpedo exploded. His sister died a few years ago, and his parents have been living in retirement and poverty. Late on Wednesday night a man with a scar on his face knocked at the door and requested a lodging. He was admitted by the old lady, who asked her aged husband to entertain the stranger while she was making a cup of tea for him. The stranger kept his hat on, and the old lady noticed that his eyes followed her every movement. To the old man he represented that he had formerly lived in the neighborhood. When asked his name he gave an evasive answer, but asked if James Merrick, lived there yet. "I am James Merrick," answered the old man. The old lady had been watching the stranger closely. Before he could utter another word she stepped quickly to his side, lifted his hat from his head, gazed a moment into his face and sank into the arms outstretched to receive her, loudly screaming, "Jim! Our Jim!" "Yes, your Jim, come home for Thanksgiving," exclaimed the stranger, as he kissed the aged face with joy and turned to his father, whose frame was trembling with gratitude. After a while he related the eventful history of his wanderings. He had been severely wounded by the explosion of the torpedo, as the scar on his face testified. He was pulled from the river by one o. the boats which came to the relief of the crew of the "Albemarle." He lost his senses by the concussion and wound, but after the latter healed he was permitted to go at large as harmless, knowing nothing of himself, not even his name. Finally, he fell into the employ of a former surgeon of the rebel army, and with him went to a plantation outside of Raleigh, N. C. One day, however, the surgeon examined his wound, and determined to try an experiment. He opened the wound in his head, and found the skull fractured and pressing in the brain. With the aid of another surgeon, the skull was lifted or trepanned, and the wound again closed gradually. Merrick's condition improved, but it was fully a year before his memory returned.

A Big Item.

Norristown Herald.

A reporter the other day saw four men on a street corner conversing earnestly, and he stopped. One of the party was relating a frightful runaway accident and the reporter got out his note book and took it all down. The horse took fright from a locomotive, ran away, threw out a woman and dragged the driver two miles, breaking every bone in his body and crushed his skull all to bits. The reporter got the names and then cheerfully asked:

"When did this occur?"

"We-l-l," drawled the narrator, "I think 'twas in the spring of '55."

Exit reporter, quoting Biblical words.

Where They Don't Use Synonyms.

Sacramento (Cal.) Union.

A gentleman recently entered a bookstore in Nevada County and inquired of the proprietor: "Have you 'Soule's Synonyms?'" "Soule's what?" queried the other. "'Soule's Synonyms,'" replied the purchaser. "No," said the shop-keeper, "we don't keep them. What are they for?" Upon being informed that synonyms were synonymous words, and that in the book referred to they were culled and arranged according to signification, he remarked: "Oh, yes, I understand what synonyms are. They are not used in this country."

Just too Mean for Anything.

In a boarding house, recently, a young man on turning off his gas saw the words, 'Confess your sins," in phosphorescent characters on the wall. He was surprised, but listening, thought he heard some young ladies outside the door waiting to observe the effect on him. So pretending to be frightened at the match scratch, he fell on his knees and confessed out loud that he had frequently kissed one of the young ladies in the dark—the one whom he had best reason to suspect of playing the trick. That young lady won't play any more such tricks immediately. She thinks he is a mean, horrid thing.

"This is a hard, cruelly hard world," writes a cynic. Yes, it is, and on any morning one never knows how soon he'll lose his footing and come down on it.—*Middletown Transcript.*

SPECIAL NOTICES.

A CARD.

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, &c., I will send a receipt that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D, New York City.

HOP BITTERS.

If you are a man of business, weakened by the strain of your duties, avoid stimulants and use

HOP BITTERS!

If you are a man of letters, toiling over your midnight work to restore brain nerve and waste, use

HOP BITTERS

If you are young and suffering from any indiscretion or disipation, if you are sinking into premature decay, suffering from poor health or languishing on a bed of sickness, rely on

HOP BITTERS!

Whoever you are, wherever you are, whenever you feel that your system needs cleansing toning or stimulating, without intoxicating HOP BITTERS!

Have you dyspepsia, kidney or urinary complaint, disease of the stomach, bowels, blood, liver, or nerves? You will be restored if you use

HOP BITTERS

If you are simply weak and low spirited, try it! Buy it. Insist upon it. Your druggist keeps it.

It may save your life. It has saved hundreds.

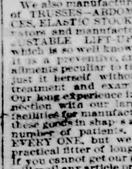
Hop Cough Cure is the most successful and best. Ask children. Hop Plaster, 25 cts., is the best and most convenient. Hop Ointment, 50 cts., is superior to all. Cures by absorption. It is perfect. Ask druggists for it. Hop Pain Relief is an able, safe and reliable cure for headache, pain, &c. Ask druggists for it.

Above all by druggists. Hop Bitters Mfg. Co., Rochester, N. Y.

ELASTIC TRUSS.

Werum's Elastic Truss.

(PATENTED.)



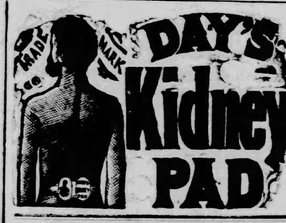
Entirely Different from all Others.

You have never seen anything else like it, and it will save a great deal of trouble with your ruptures to try this Truss. WE CAN HOLD NINETY FIVE CASES OUT OF A HUNDRED WITH IT.

We also manufacture a great many other styles of TRUSSES—ABDOMINAL SUPPORTERS, BRACES, ELASTIC STOCKINGS, &c. We are the originators and manufacturers of the celebrated LADIES' STABLE LIFT SUPPORTER for ladies, which is so well known and highly recommended. It is a preventive, and in many cases a cure for all diseases peculiar to their sex. Any lady can adjust it herself without assistance, making local treatment and examinations often unnecessary. Our long experience in fitting trusses, &c., in connection with our large wholesale business and facilities for manufacturing, enables us to supply these goods in shape and styles to suit the greatest number of patients. We do not claim to cure EVERY CASE, but we DO cure a great many. A practical fitter of long experience, in attendance. If you cannot get our goods of your druggists, we will mail any article prepaid, on receipt of the price. All correspondence or interviews strictly confidential. Send for our free catalogue, containing valuable information, and nearly a hundred illustrations, with descriptions of our goods. J. & P. WERUM, 48 Summit St., Toledo, Ohio.

CONSUMPTION.

I have a positive remedy for the above disease; by its use in my practice I have cured thousands of the worst kind and of long standing. Indeed, so strong is my faith in its efficacy that I will send TWO BOTTLES FREE, together with a VALUABLE TREATISE on this disease, to any sufferer giving their Express and P. O address. Dr. T. A. SLOCUM 181 Pearl St., New York.



DAY'S Kidney PAD

DOES YOUR BACK ACHE?

Do you have Pain in the side? Are you unable to Retain or Expel your Urine? Is your Urine high colored? Do you have Albuminous or Brick Dust Deposits in your Urine? Does it differ from Nervous Debility or Weakness? Do you have Painful Urinating? Then your KIDNEYS or BLADDER are affected and you could not delay using our Pad at once, for it will certainly cure you, when nothing else can. For sale by druggists, or sent by mail upon receipt of price, $2.00. Send us your address for certificates of cures and our book, "How a Life was Saved."

DAY KIDNEY PAD CO., TOLEDO, OHIO.

BEWARE of all other Kidney Pads.

Golden Medical Discovery

Dr. Pier

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., Pubrs.

TOLEDO, O., THURSDAY, JAN. 8, 1880.

THE TOLEDO BLADE.

Terms—Postage Paid:

Single copy, per year, **$2.00**, and at the same rate for a shorter time. Clubs of five, per year **$1.75** each. Clubs of ten and over, **$1.65** each.

SPECIMEN COPIES—Sent free to any address. Send for one, and at the same time give us the addresses of a dozen or so of your friends at as many different Postoffices, to whom we will send copies free and postage paid. Send for our Special instructions to Agents. Address, **THE BLADE,** TOLEDO, OHIO.

THE TOLEDO BLADE!

(NASBY'S PAPER).

The Largest, Best and Cheapest

FAMILY WEEKLY FOR 1880.

The BLADE for the coming year will combine an unparalleled list of attractions, with its well known and popular standard features.

THE NASBY LETTERS,

as heretofore, will appear exclusively in its columns.

The Answers to Correspondents, the Household, and other Departments, will be more varied and interesting than ever before.

A NEW STORY,

by the author of "Andersonville," will begin in January and continue through the greater part of the year.

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY

is now offered to subscribers and to agents who will raise clubs.

SPECIMEN COPIES FREE,

and all other particulars regarding subscriptions or agencies by return mail. Address

THE BLADE CO.,
Toledo, Ohio.

Circulation this week, 61,040

ONE of the leading secular weekly papers of New York City, and one of three papers of its class in that City which circulate most largely throughout the United States, took occasion last week to do a little quiet boasting. The basis of its self-gratulation was the cash receipts for subscriptions to its weekly edition as given below. Since our "eminent contemporary" has thrown down this gage, the BLADE ventures to pick it up, and append the figures from its books, showing the actual cash receipts from *weekly subscriptions alone* for the three days given by the New York paper, which, for the occasion, may be called the *Globe*:

December.	The *Globe*.	The BLADE.
26	$3,130 47	$1,845 81
27	956 00	739 78
28	1,233 00	1,321 03
Total	$5,320 47	$3,910 62

We might add that for December 26 and 27th, the two days following Christmas, our receipts for weekly subscriptions alone were $2,088 51 and $1,437.11 respectively, a total of $3,502.62, or more than the largest receipts of the entire three days first named. The clubbing rates of the *Globe* and the BLADE are so nearly identical that a thousand dollars represents about the same numbers of yearly subscribers in either case. We also venture the assertion that the figures of receipts for weekly subscriptions as shown by the books of the BLADE for any three days or any six days of the month of January will be at least as large, if not larger than those of any other paper of its class in the United States, and that the receipts from the same source for the three months ending April 1, 1880, will equal, if not exceed, those of any of the papers in question. Without taking this assertion as the basis for any idle boasting, we simply state that we "mean business," and should be pleased at any time to compare figures for the benefit of either advertisers or publishers.

IT has doubtless been noticed that the figures at the head of this column indicating the BLADE circulation have somewhat decreased during the past three or four weeks. This decrease, which has been faithfully reflected each week in the figures given, has been incident to the season of the year, and not to any lack of prosperity on the part of the BLADE. We had upon our lists a large number of short time names whose subscriptions expired during November and December, and as is usually the case before the renewal season begins, such names come off for a time faster than renewals occur. But during the latter part of December, the very reverse of this has taken place, and renewals and new subscriptions are now coming in faster than they can be entered on the mailing books and put in type, and next week's figures will undoubtedly show an advance. Every indication upholds the belief that the BLADE'S subscriptions for 1880 will be the largest ever known in its history, and that its circulation for the coming year will surpass that of any other similar paper in the country. All then remains now going on our books are for *one year*, thus making a permanent basis for circulation and giving advertisers the best possible security of the value of extended contracts.

LORD LENGFORD a leading Irish peer asserts that the distress of the Irish people can only be relieved by their stopping the quaffing of whisky.

TENNYSON has been roundly charged with plagiarism by the editor of the *Cornhill Magazine*, who, it is said, is a warm personal friend of the poet.

OF the making of books there is no end. England printed 5,800 new ones last year. The fort is claimed as one of the evidences of returning prosperity.

IT was eight to seven again. GARCELON and his Council were eight and the Supreme Court seven. This time, however, the seven got away with the eight—and very badly, too.

OUR "Miniature Classical Library" is the hit of the season. These are beautiful little volumes of crimson cloth with gilt tops, at only 20c each, or $4.00 for the set of 21. See list elsewhere.

A PUNNING fashion item says: "The imitation frogs now worn as ornaments by the ladies, are rather suggestive of the approaching leap year. However, it will not do to jump at this conclusion. It may only be souvenir of croak, hey?"

CURRENT EVENTS.

There was very little occurring to mar the holiday quiet of Washington during the past week, the President's New Year's reception being the principal event. The Diplomatic Corps was first received in order that its members might, in accordance with the usual custom, lunch with the Secretary of State at 12 o'clock. Nearly all the foreign legations were represented by their Ministers, and all the representatives of European nations were in uniform or court dress. After the Diplomatic Corps had been received, the President by Secretary Evarts, the Justices of the Supreme Court were received, and were followed in turn by the Justices of the District Courts, Senators and Representatives, Officers of the Army and Navy, and Department Officers. The general reception of private citizens took place between 1 and 2 o'clock, and was attended by a large number of people.

A dispatch was received at the War Department on Friday from Assistant Adjt. Gen. WHIPPLE, at Chicago, which says: "Lieut. PAYNE telegraphs Dec. 30 that Gen. HATCH arrived at Clinch Ranche on the 28th all right. OURAY, JACK and several other Chiefs met him there yesterday. The whole party leave on horseback for Indian Creek. The wagons were abandoned on account of the snow." This settles favorably all questions as to the final safety of Gen HATCH and his associates. It also settles all questions relative to the surrender of the Indians engaged in the White River massacre, that project having proved an utter failure.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued a circular, inviting the sale of $5,000,000 of the six per cent. bonds of 1880, and the five per cent. bonds of 1881, and six per cents of the same year, at 102¼, 101½ and 103⅝ respectively. The offers must be for the sale of bonds and accrued interest to the 7th inst., and all proposals must be accompanied by a check for five per cent. of the amount involved.

Gen. GRANT and party, consisting of Mrs. GRANT, Gen. SHERIDAN and wife, Col. GRANT and wife, and one or two others, left Washington for the South on the evening of Dec. 30th. They passed through Fredericksburg and Richmond hastily, were formally welcomed at Beaufort, S. C., and Augusta and Savannah Ga., and from the latter place went by steamer to Fernandina, Fla., where they were met by a large concourse of people, and tendered a public reception on Monday. After a brief stay in Florida which Gen. GRANT now visits for the first time, the party will proceed to Havana, Cuba, where preparations have already been made for their reception.

On the 30th ult., the Republican State Committee of Pennsylvania met at Harrisburg for the purpose of appointing a day for holding the ensuing State Convention. The sentiment of the Committee was largely in favor of an early day for holding the Convention, and after an unsuccessful attempt to postpone the meeting till April, it was decided to issue a call for Wednesday, Feb. 4. It is stated that but four of the Committee are reckoned as anti-GRANT men, a fact which shows that Pennsylvania will be very decidedly for GRANT. As previously stated the convention will have the selection of electors for the Presidential ticket, and also of the delegates to the Republican National Convention at Chicago.

On Thursday the inauguration of the new Republican Government of New York, headed by Gov. CORNELL, took place at Albany. The exercises included the administration of the oath of office by the retiring Secretary of State, and the brief addresses by Govs. ROBINSON and CORNELL. The attendance was one of the largest ever known.

On the 31 inst., the Justices of the Supreme Court of Maine returned full answers to the 12 questions submitted to them by Gov. GARCELON, touching the recent election of representatives in that State. The questions did not cover the ground marked out by Sen. MORRILL, but, on the contrary, they were framed with a special view of obtaining answers favorable to GARCELON'S position. The answers, however, are a sweeping condemnation of the entire scheme to steal the State. The full text is given elsewhere.

Bishop GILBERT HAVEN, one of the best known and most popular of the Methodist Bishops, died at his mother's residence in Malden, Mass., on Saturday evening. He was born in Malden in 1821, entered the New England Conference of his Church in 1851, was the first Chaplain of the Eighth Massachusetts Volunteers during the early part of the war, and was elected a Bishop in 1872. He was a strong advocate of negro emancipation and of the political equality of woman, as well as the author of several books.

There is little doubt that the caucus held at Columbus will select Gen. GARFIELD on the first ballot for United States Senator. It is admitted by all that he has 60 votes and may get 75. The smallest number being a majority of all the Republican members, there is nothing to prevent his election except an unexpected defection of some of his supporters. TAFT'S friends claim 30 votes for their man, and MATTHEWS' friends 20 for their's, but they are believed to be much in excess of the real number, unless it includes "second choice" men—that is, those who will vote for GARFIELD first, but will support somebody else should it be evident that he had no chance of election. The entire people of the State will approve of Gen. GARFIELD'S election with a unanimity that few candidates for that position have ever been honored with. This is because they believe him to be the fittest man in the State to represent the State in the Senate.

THE work of packing and shipping the various orders received for "Andersonville" is going on as rapidly as possible, and under some remaining disadvantages which it has not been possible to overcome. The publisher is again compelled to appeal to the leniency of his agents, and to express the hope that they will be as patient as the circumstances will admit. Five thousand copies of the book were shipped last week, and shipments will continue at the same rate till all orders on hand at this date have been filled. Meantime orders received in the future, under improved arrangements, will be subject to little or no delay.

ROBBING PETER TO PAY PETER.

Among the various financial schemes to which attention will be called on the re-opening of Congress is that of Mr. WEAVER of the House. It will be remembered that this bill, which has already received attention in these columns, proposes to give to each soldier in the late war of the rebellion such sum as will make the currency actually paid him for services in the army equal to gold, together with six per cent. interest on such difference or deficiency during the intervening years. It would naturally be supposed, since Mr. WEAVER talks so smoothly of gold and gold values, that he designs to pay this difference in gold. Such a course would be consistent, and would bring him the respect of those who disagree with him as to the justice or expediency of his measure. But to take from the Treasury the enormous sum of gold which such a payment would require and in so short a time would be simply a matter of impossibility to say nothing of consequent financial complications. Mr. WEAVER realizes this, and so "to enable the Government to meet the payments required by this act, the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to cause to be issued five hundred millions of United States notes." * * * "and said notes, when so issued, shall be legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private, and shall be kept in circulation in the manner now provided by law for other United States notes."

Here then is the gist of the matter. Mr. WEAVER does not intend actually to pay the alleged balance to the soldiers but merely to give them evidences of indebtedness in the shape of United States notes, which shall be legal tender," etc., etc. Waiving the question of the legality of such an issue in the time of peace, let us look at the probable effect of their appearance in our monetary system. The total amount of legal tenders now outstanding, is a little less than 347,000,000. These notes have steadily appreciated in value from the darkest days of the war till now they have reached a gold basis and every dollar in paper is worth one hundred cents. To this sum of legal tenders at par Mr. WEAVER would add *five hundred millions*, or in round numbers, a hundred and fifty millions more than the total outstanding legal tenders. This enormous sum would be understood as representing the difference between the gold value of the currency dollar at the date of its payment to the soldier, and the gold dollar itself. Doubtless it would correctly do so while it was being printed. But experience teaches us that before one-quarter of this sum could be placed in the hands of the soldiers, the heavy over-issue of irredeemable paper would produce precisely the same result that it did during the war, and we should witness an immediate separation between the values of the gold dollar and the paper dollar—a separation that would continue to grow and widen in a ratio exactly corresponding to the amount of the over issue. It is instantly apparent that the soldiers first paid would receive the full amount due them, while those paid later, owing to the depreciation of the paper in which they were paid would fall further and still further short of their dues. Obviously but one thing could be done to work equal and exact justice, and that would be to make a new issue of legal tender notes for the purpose of supplying the deficiency. It would be as manifestly unjust to make up to a part of the soldiers the loss sustained by the currency depreciation, and not do so in all cases, as it could possibly be to pay the whole army in depreciated currency. It is also evident that a second issue would work a still further depreciation, which would have to be corrected by a third and so on. Meantime the prior outstanding legal tender circulation not being distinguishable from the later issue would share its common fate, and aid in the general unsettlement of values. If it were so distinguished, it would be withdrawn from circulation at an early stage in the appearance of the new issue, and be locked up by capitalists and speculators as equal in value to gold.

It would be well enough for ex-soldiers who see in this smooth and specious scheme a movement for long delayed justice, to bear in mind that what the bill proposes is not to make up the deficiencies of the war currency in money, but in notes. These notes must some time be paid, and they can be paid only by the people, and through taxation. The obligation created by Mr. WEAVER'S bill is not to be met by the accumulation of superfluous capital, but it is simply a sum to be added to the general burden. As citizens of the United States, as taxpayers, either directly or indirectly the ex-soldiers will all be asked to put their hands in their pockets and pay their share of the added indebtedness. And if the passage of Mr. WEAVER'S bill greatly increasing the amount of outstanding irredeemable paper should tend to a new unsettlement of values, we can assure them that their share will not be a small one. In a word, the plan of Mr. WEAVER is not even a method of "robbing PETER to pay PAUL," it is merely transferring money from one pocket to another, the robbing of PETER to pay PETER'S own indebtedness.

ONE sentence strips GARCELON'S act of all the sophistry with which he tries to conceal its true proportions. That sentence is *"That he is trying to defeat the legally expressed will of a majority of the people of Maine."* Much the larger part of the citizens of that State desired some one else than he and his friends to continue in power. Of the 134,000 votes cast at the recent election he received only a beggarly 27,000, or about one in every six. Five men voted against him to one for him, and yet he has now the audacity to seek, by legal quirks and quibbles, to make that one man's vote count more than the other six. It is simply another development of the Democratic idea prevalent at the South, where a couple hundred clay-eating whites, armed with shot guns, can place Gen. CHALMERS in a seat to the attaining of which the votes of 17,000 men are required by a Congressman from the North.

"BARON MUNCHAUSEN" is a book whose extravagant humor and quaint fancies are immortal in American literature. We offer a very attractive edition of 251 pages, illustrated by ALFRED CROQUILL, at only $1.25, regular price $2.00. It affords capital reading.

POOR MR. PARNELL!

The arrival of Mr. PARNELL in this country has called forth various expressions of opinion in regard to the object of his coming, from leading journals, and any amount of good advice to the great agitator as to the manner in which he should conduct himself in order to obtain the good will of the American people. Possibly he may not agree with any of them, but will govern himself and his actions as it seemeth to him best.

The New York *Herald* tells him authoritatively that now he has arrived in the United States, he must substitute statesmanship for mere agitation, and show the wise in England and America that his purpose is to do good to Ireland and not merely effect a revolution. Perhaps Mr. PARNELL imagines that he need not change his course in order to prove that. The *Herald* advises him to confine his labors to raising money for the relief of the distress in Ireland, and promises that the people will respond warmly to any efforts in that direction, warning the distinguished gentleman at the same time that he must not introduce the political phase or he will at once condemn the whole matter and be obliged to go back empty-handed.

The N. Y. *Tribune* looks at the thing in a different light. It frowns in a dignified sort of way, peculiar to that paper, upon Mr. PARNELL and any possible object he may have in coming thither. With a gentle lift of the journalistic eyebrows, its editor scorns the assumption that American people need to be enlightened as to Home Rule and Land Reform in Ireland, and hints that the "starving poor" of that country are not sufficiently starved yet to need assistence from their friends this side of the water. Money for any reform there, while it can probably be obtained will be thrown away, as the poor Irishman has always been a thriftless sort of fellow and always will be so long as he remains upon the Green Isle. Evidently the *Tribune* believes there is something radically wrong in the physical make up of "ould Ireland" itself that must always prevent any improvement in the condition of its people.

Then comes the New York *World* with a sort of non-committal air through a column editorial, *rather* smiling upon the idea of relieving the poverty-stricken, *rather* frowning upon any raising of money to aid the land reform, and this it believes the real object of Mr. PARNELL'S mission, while at the same time a welcome is bespoken for the gentleman upon the ground that he is the grandson of Commodore STEWART, who was "to fortune and to fame" not unknown.

The New York *Times*, like all large bodies, moves slowly. Its ponderous brain had not on Saturday the date of the above expressed opinions, as yet got its thoughts in order for the world and Mr. PARNELL. Probably the Sunday's edition gave an elaborate digest of the matter, but at the date of writing that issue had not reached the BLADE sanctum.

So much for New York where the great agitator landed last Friday, and where he received his first welcome. The leading evening papers are as varied in their expressions as those of the morning. Western journals thus far generally give short, crisp paragraphs in regard to Mr. PARNELL'S arrival, expressing sympathy with any efforts for the relief of suffering without undertaking as yet to give him any good advice as to his future operations. The St. Louis *Globe Democrat*, however, makes general mince meat of the poor man's claims to being a reformer.

Mr. PARNELL having now been informed as to the sentiment of the people, —that is, if he is of sufficiently analytic mind to sort it out from what has been set before him,—will probably proceed to the business that brought him here. If conflicting opinions are apt to confuse him, how his brain must reel in the effort to know what course it is best to take in a country where the spread eagle is continually flapping his wings in the face of a new comer like himself. Poor Mr. PARNELL!

DEFEATED RASCALITY.

Once upon a time an eccentric Judge in this State was sitting in a land case, in which the defendant was clearly in the right, but the prejudice of the neighborhood ran strongly against him. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with this prejudice, whereupon the Judge turned to the Clerk with:

"Enter the verdict, Mr. Clerk. Enter after it, 'Verdict set aside by order of the Judge,' and then after that write, *'It takes thirteen men to steal a man's farm in the Courts of the State of Ohio.'"*

The Supreme Court of Maine informs the Governor that it takes more men than himself and his little gang of conspirators to steal the State.

It is certain that no high officer in this country ever went into Court in opposition to the people with so poor a case, and no one was ever so completely crushed by an adverse decision. Not a single point raised by him and his fellow conspirators was entertained as a correct principle of law. Doubtless only respect for his exalted station prevented the Judges from stigmatizing—as Judges are wont to do—the iniquity of disturbing the peace of the community, and wasting the valuable time of the Court with disputes for which there exist so little basis of reason and law. When one reflects that this man was ready to embroil the State—perhaps the Nation—in the horrors of civil war to maintain propositions that the Court treats so contemptuously, the full measure of his presumptuous knavery becomes apparent.

The decision of the Court is what the deliverances of such a body should be: dignified, able, impartial and explicit. Every point is covered fairly, there is no equivocation or dubiety anywhere, and the dispassionate arguments are supported by numerous precedens.

This ends the matter. The Fusionists will not have the hardihood to even call in question—much less resist—a decision that accords so well with the common sense of the whole people. Even Democratic effrontery has its limits, and these limits will not reach to a defiance of this tribunal.

The Legislature of Maine will be organized on Wednesday by the legally elected members, who will proceed to install the legally elected Governor, while GARCELON will slink back into private life, like the detected and defeated conspirator that he is, leaving his name to go down to posterity with that of CRONIN, the beacon-nosed knave of Oregon,

SEVERAL lithographic stone mines have been discovered in Kentucky. The material has heretofore been obtained principally from Solenhaufen, in Bavaria.

A DISTINCTION WITH A DIFFERENCE.

The present Congress affords some admirable examples of financial inconsistency. A certain class of would-be reformers in the National Halls of the Legislature devoted their time to moving heaven and earth to secure the passage of the silver bill, and confused their constituency with their talk of lightening their financial burden with a dollar worth at that time about 85 cents in gold. The coinage was soon begun at the minimum rate of two millions per month, and since the advocates of the silver bill had failed to provide any means for getting rid of them, the standard dollars continued to accumulate in the Treasury, and even refused to stay in circulation after they were once put out. It was evident that something must be done to help get rid of the "prosperity" which the Silver faction had forced upon the country. Among other measures, it will be remembered that the Secretary of the Treasury issued an order directing that the requisitions of all disbursing officers for funds with which to pay Government officers and employes should thereafter be paid one tenth in silver dollars. It would seem as though such an arrangement while it might meet with some opposition from the advocates of the single standard would be most cheerfully received by the supporters of the silver bill. Having by their speeches and votes done all in their power to convince their constituency of the benefits and blessings of an increased silver currency, if only remained for them to exemplify their faith, by their works, and to pocket their much-desired silver. Indeed it was a question whether the more enthusiastic advocates of the restored dollar would not seize upon the excellent opportunity of giving practical illustration of their doctrine by insisting on being paid entirely in silver. When it came, however, to putting the rule into operation recently in the payment of Congressmen there ensued the most lively opposition among the silverites themselves. The arrangement which contemplated the taking of their own physic was highly objectionable, and not to be thought of for a moment. The dose had been prepared for somebody else, and not for private consumption. The new currency was a capital article, with which to pay a debt, but when it come to being paid—that was altogether a different matter. The opposition against this regulation of the Treasury Department is headed by Mr. WARNER of Ohio, who was one of the most radical of the silver coinage advocates, and who now introduces a bill requiring that silver certificates shall be disbursed in the place of the standard dollar on demand of the public creditors. It is a little difficult for the average intellect to comprehend just how the paper symbol of the depreciated dollar would better the matter, but that can probably be explained by Mr. WARNER himself. A contemporary suggests that the silver dollar act was passed rather to benefit the holders of silver bullion by taking the surplus silver from the markets than to introduce silver into the general currency. Having largely accomplished this object, the recent advocates of silver coinage see in the ancestral dollar nothing but a sop to be thrown to their restless constituents who are willing to be beguiled by such financial sophistries.

It is something to know that the Secretary of the Treasury has finally consented to make a concession to these gentlemen which admits of their being paid their ten per cent. in coin and silver certificates. The difference is not very great, but it shows the admirable consistency of the gentlemen who only a year ago were lifting up their voices in demanding a currency for their creditors and constituents which they are now unwilling to accept for themselves.

THE UNITED STATES LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

That this staunch old Company, whose annual statement appears elsewhere in our columns, is able on the very first day of the year to know and publish its exact condition to the exact hour of midnight of the 31st of December previous, as has been its practice for many years, shows how fully its affairs are in the hands of the efficient officers having it in charge. But this is not all, nor is it by any means the best that can be said of it.

The statement (to which we ask careful attention) shows a high state of prosperity and an increased strength, proving how fully secure are the interests of its policy holders.

Two features will especially strike all who seek the inestimable benefits of Life Insurance:

First—All the usual restrictions and conditions as to occupation, residence and cause of death are removed after the policy has been in force three years.

Second—Another new condition secures to the insured, whose premiums have been paid for three years, continued insurance for the full amount of the policy for as long a time as the entire reserve will carry it.

Here we have all the conditions of complete protection, viz.: Strength, honest and able management, and the fullest favor to the insured consistent with safety. Those who have been harrassed with the thousand obstacles put in the way of policy holders by many companies, will most of all appreciate these liberal terms.

SELECTED NOVELS.

To meet the demand for first class fiction, we have determined to offer for a short time, the following list of carefully selected novels by leading American authors, *in connection with the* BLADE *only*, at $1.75 for the BLADE one year, and any of the following books. Each volume is substantially bound in cloth, and contains from 350 to 450 pages, and retails everywhere at $1.50 per copy. In all cases the BLADE and the book selected must be ordered and paid for at the same time. The list includes "St. Peter's Bride," "The Grinder Papers," "All for Her," "All for Him," "Faithful Margaret," "Lady Leonora," "Home Harmonies," "Mr. Ghim's Dream," "Mrs. Ghim's Dream," "Conquered," and "Peerless Cathleen." Mention the BLADE list of selected novels in ordering.

IF the Army does not have any better success in getting its foot upon the neck of the American people than it does in getting Lo, the poor Indian down and holding him there, the chances for anybody making himself Emperor are not very brilliant.

NASBY.

Mr. Nasby Goes to Maine to Assist Gov. Garcelon and the Democracy—He Has a Thrill of Satisfaction for the First Time in Many Months.

AUGUSTA, (Wich is in the State uv Maine.) Jan. 6, 1879.

We hev got 'em.

Ther ain't no doubt uv it.

For neetnis uv idee and facility uv execooshon, the Maine plan lays all over the Noo York repeetin noshun, and is ez much sooperior to the Mississippi idee ez daylite is to darknis.

Maine is to Mississippi ez a piano is to a jewsharp.

Between the Maine plan and the Noo York plan uv repeetin there aint no more comparison than there is between the Noo York Central Railroad and a Kentucky corduroy.

The trouble about the Missisipi plan uv carryin the State for the Dimocrisy is yoo hev to waste a good deel uv money in powder and shot, and ther is sathin not altogether pleasant in shootin a Radikel. His wife and dawters alluz make a fuss that is ospleasant, onless the bystanders are suffishently full to be entirely oblivious, wich, in the very nacher uv things can't be, for a man full enuff uv sod-corn whiskey not to feel sum sort uv pity for a weepin woman, coodent hev the nerve to shoot her husband at all. A slobberin woman isn't a agreeable object, even to a citizen uv Yazoo.

The Noo York plan uv carryin a eleckshun is open to the objeckshun uv expense. The average Irishman will hev so much likker and so much money for every time he repeets, and his leeder hez got to be seen and he must hev his whack with the rest. To kerry a Dimekratik majority in the City uv Noo York sufficient to drown out the rest uv the State is a expensive and troublesome thing.

But the kerryin uv Maine for the Dimcrisy, agin a Republikin majority, wuz no trouble at all, and no expense or bother. All Gov. Garcelon did wuz to let the people vote. He did not shoot Republikins ez we do in Mississippy, or buy Irish ez we do in Noo York. Ther wuz no interference with the freedom uv the poles—every man votid wich hed a rite to. Nuthin cood be fairer than the eleckshun, ez everybody will admit. The Republikins went to bed the nite uv the eleckshun feelin that they hed kerried the State, and the averige Democrat conseeded it.

None uv em knode the skeem that wuz revolvin in the mind uv Garcelon, the Napoleon uv the Northeast. The Republikin electid to the Legisacher found a few days after that he wuzn't electid at all. In the returns was found t's that hedn't bin crossed and i's that hedn't bin dottid, and he was throwd out becoz the returns wuz defective. Ther wuz no errors in the Demockratic deestriks. It hed bin fixed that the t's shood all be crossed and the i's all dottid; but wo to the Republikin deestriks wher this important matter hed bin keerlisly attendid to. We hev the Legislacher and the next Senator, and the cotrole uv the State.

Dimekrats uv Noo York, stop buyin votes—there is a shorter way to victry.

Dimekrats uv Mississippy, throw away yoor shot-guns, and stop buyin powder and slugs. A Yankee Dimekrat hez showd yoo a better way uv beetin a majority. Violence and bribery is played out—Garcelon hez pinted out a better way and a cheaper.

Will he stand firm? The man who kin conceeve sich a thing ought to hev the stamina to kerry it out. I know he will. I hev bin with him four days, and of he don't I am no judge of human nacher,—uv his kind.

Hallelooly! I see a lite. It breaks in the East. I hev an addishnel proof uv the trooth uv the Scripters, for is it not written that the wise men cum from the East? It should hev bin addishnal so, that a great many uv the recklis ones cum from the same seckshun.

PETROLEUM V. NASBY,
Jubilant.

GRANT'S TOUR AROUND THE WORLD.

The return of Gen. GRANT from his wonderful circuit of the globe is one of the events of the past year which has made a vivid and lasting impression on the people of the entire United States. More than this, it is an event of historical and national importance, and the distinguished visitor's reception by all the leading Nations and rulers of the world, was designed not merely to do honor to a brave soldier, but to a representative of the greatest Republic of the world. Naturally, an account of this journey and its events and incidents, is of the deepest interest, and we are glad to be able to announce a work on the subject just published and entitled, "A Tour Around the World, by Gen. Grant." The book is a handsomely printed volume of 810 octavo pages, prefaced by a fine steel portrait of the General and adorned by a number of handsome engravings. The narrative, which is very full and satisfactory, follows GRANT and his companions from his departure from Philadelphia in May, 1877, through Great Britain, Ireland, Belgium, the German Empire, Switzerland, France, Egypt, the Holy Land, and in a word, throughout the countries visited, ending with China and Japan. The book also contains accounts and descriptions not only of the cities and countries visited, but also of the manners and customs of the people, and a full account of the honors paid Gen. GRANT by the sovereigns and people of the Old World. The regular price of the book is $3.00, for which it will be sent to any address postpaid; or the book and the BLADE one year will be sent for $4.25.

BECAUSE the voters in one Precinct spelt his name "JOHN BURNAM," and in another "JOHN BURNHAM," he is unseated, and his place given to a Democrat, who did not receive over one-tenth of the votes cast, and yet some unscrupulous falsifiers say that this is precisely similar to the case in Louisiana, where over 2,000 Republicans were frightened away from the polls in one Parish by systematic outrages, and midnight murders of all who dared say they were Republicans or intended to vote the Republican ticket.

WHILE Sen. BEN HILL and other Democratic leaders are declaring that free and fair elections are held in the South, the Vicksburg *Herald*, a Democratic paper, says that "Mississippi cannot long stand the strain put on it in many Counties during the last campaign."

PRESS COMMENT.

How the Maine Decision is Regarded.

New York Times.

Ingenious as may have been the pettifogging by which the Governor and his advisers attempted to obscure the true issue raised by the Maine conspirators, the opinion of the Court is a sweeping condemnation of their course, and a most emphatic endorsement of the position sustained by the Republicans. The conspiracy may be carried out in spite of the opinion, but, if it is, no more clearly revolutionary act will have been perpetrated since the firing upon Sumter, and no more damning accusation can be preferred against the Democratic party that they have approved an assault on the very citadel of freedom, with as callous a defiance of the requirement of equity as of the principle of law. The Supreme Court has thus swept away the entire fabric of quibbling, usurpation, and fraudulent pretense which Gov. Garcelon and his associates have erected with such infinite pains, and with so cynical a disregard for all that passes for honor or fair dealing among the mass of American citizens. That the men who are left among the ruins of this edifice of fraud are as capable of filling the role of the desperado as they have shown themselves to be fitted for the role of the sycophant is only too probable. Republicans in Maine and elsewhere can afford to watch and wait.

New York Herald.

"The guiding principle of the several opinions is to be found in the answer of the Court to Gov. Garcelon's second question. The pith of the controversy is touched in the declaration of the Court that, while the Constitution calls for a return true in essentials, much of the Constitutional requirement is directory merely. The error of Gov. Garcelon and his Council consisted in regarding every minute provision as mandatory and absolute, even though it defeated the main purpose of ascertaining for what candidates the votes were actually cast. It suffices to say that the whole ground on which the Governor and Council stood is cut from under them. The Constitution of Maine is so construed to make it consistent with justice, common sense, and the right of the electors to have their votes counted and their intentions respected. We suppose the conspiracy to steal the Legislature will collapse under the weight of this opinion, and that means will be found to put the Republican party in possession of what they really won in the election."

New York World.

The Supreme Court of Maine has answered, fully and directly, the questions which Gov. Garcelon has submitted to it. The Judges talk like Judges, not like partisan politicians. They uphold the sound Democratic principle that the intention of the voters where it can be clearly made out, must prevail, and that the duties of canvassers are ministerial and not judicial. No other doctrine is possible without depriving Legislatures of their right to pass upon the qualifications of their own members, without depriving the Courts of their functions, and without converting a board of partisans into a tribunal to decide all cases of contested elections. It is not to be supposed that Gov. Garcelon and his Council who, by adopting the methods of "Cipher Albany," have brought this opinion on themselves, will insist upon their position in the face of the decision which they have invited. There does not now appear to be the slightest reason to fear for the preservation of the peace in Maine.

New York Tribune.

The spirit of the decision is this: The people are to have their rights, and are not to be cheated out of them. The Governor has asked for advice from the highest Court, and it has been given him. What will he do next? He has gone too far to turn back. He is fully committed to a policy of political infamy.

Cincinnati Gazette.

The Supreme Court Judges have answered Gov. Garcelon's questions. The answers have the conciseness and accuracy of language and the support of authority which belong to judicial opinions. They show that Gov. Garcelon's attempt to cover up the real cases, by putting his questions in vague form, failed wholly to prevent answers that are pertinent to the cases. The very putting of the questions in the form of vague generalities made the answers necessarily comprehensive. The short and unanswerable way in which they lay down the law which strips Gov. Garcelon's acts of disfranchisement of all pretense of legality would be entertaining if the affair were not so serious. The simple statement that the law is made to preserve the rights of the people and not to destroy them overthrows Gov. Garcelon.

Cincinnati Enquirer.

The answer of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Maine to the questions submitted to them by Gov. Garcelon, destroy themselves. The opinion is throughout a partisan decision, distinguished for a plentiful lack of consistency. This opinion once more teaches the folly and impropriety of making the judiciary political referees, of referring questions pertaining solely to political elections to men on the Bench as umpires. It is discovered that their decisions are as partisan as those of men not on the Bench. Men on the Bench have political prejudices as well as men off the Bench, and they are as well aware as common people how they would be abused if they decided against their party. To subject Judges needlessly to such political temptation is hostile to public interest. It diminishes public respect for the Judiciary. No more just or non-partisan decisions are reached than by selecting other men as referees, and by the same token the Bench is demoralized and degraded. It is a vicious custom that should not be encouraged. For the sake of the self respect of the Judges, and to preserve the public respect for the Judiciary the practice should be abandoned as contrary to public policy.

A Tough Chicken Story.

Palatka (Fla.) Herald.

The following remarkable chicken story is from good authority: On the orange grove of Col. St. George Rogers, near Ocala, a short time ago, there was an aged hen sitting on a half dozen eggs. As was her usual habit, she came off for dinner one day and on returning found that a large chicken snake had invaded her sacred domain and swallowed three eggs, and unfortunately for him, had not retired. She immediately fell upon him with unbounded fury, pecking, clawing, and fluttering around the surprised "serpent" until he started for the woods. The hen followed, keeping up the contest, while the snake coiled and struck at her repeatedly. After having vanquished her foe she went back to her nest, and in due course of time hatched out the three remaining eggs. About this time a hand employed on the grove had occasion to go over the ground on which the fight had occurred, and while passing a scrub he heard the chirp of young chickens, and on looking around closely, he discovered three young chickens, and lying near by he discovered a large chicken snake with a hole pecked through him. The young chickens had hatched out in the snake and pecked away until they were free from their dead prison.

Who He Was.

Detroit Free Press.

"Now, then, who is the plaintiff in this case?" asked his Honor in Justice alley, yesterday, as a case was called.

No reply.

"I ask who is the plaintiff in this case?" continued the Court.

"I don't know anything about plaintiffs," replied a man in the corner as he slowly rose; "but if you are asking for the chap who was chased a mile and a half and then mopped all over his own barn yard by two desperados, I'm your man!"

The case went on.

"Chicago is to be illuminated by electric light, and kept constantly as light as day. Boston isn't," says a paper published in the first named place. We don't need it. Boston can trust its citizens in the dark.—*Boston Post.*

CHEAP READING.

We have on hand a small list of books which have been slightly damaged in the binding, but which still have the text entire. We guarantee that in all cases the text is complete and the print legible. For the purpose of closing them out, we have placed the price at the lowest possible figure, and will send them postpaid. Only one copy of each title is offered:

REMINISCENCES OF AMERICA IN 1869, by two Englishmen; 332 pages, tinted paper. Regular price $1.50; our price 50c.

DRIFTING ABOUT, or What Jessmes Pikes of Pipesville Saw and Did, by Stephen C. Massett. 348 pages. Regular price $1.50; our price 50c.

MEMORIES OF AMERICAN MISSIONARIES, with introductory essay by Leonard Woods, D. D.; 355 pages. Regular price $1.25; our price 50c.

THOUGHTS ON MORAL AND SPIRITUAL CULTURE, by R. C. Waterson; 317 pages. Regular price $1.00; our price 50c.

THE LECTURE SEASON, Discourses by Eminent English Divines; 365 pages. Regular price $1.50; our price 50c.

PENCIL SKETCHES, or Outlines of Character and Manners, by Miss Leslie; 342 pages. Regular price $1.25; our price 45c.

WHAT IS CONTRABAND OF WAR, and What Not, by Joseph Moseley, Esq., Barrister at Law; 112 pages. Regular price $1.00; our price 30c.

POETRY FOR SCHOOLS, designed for reading and Recitation; edited by the author of "Andersonville," Popular Lessons," 300 pages. Regular price $1.50; our price 50c.

OUT OF THE CAGE, an o'er true tale, by George W. Owen; 279 pages. Regular price $1.50; our price 50c.

LYNDE WEISS, an autobiography, by George H. Throop; 188 pages. Regular price $1.00; our price 30c.

LECTURES ON PHRENOLOGY, by George Combe, Esq., with introductory essay by Andrew Boardman, M. D.; 302 pages. Regular price $1.50; our price 50c.

DIARY OF A SOUTHERN REFUGEE During the Late War, by a lady of Virginia; 360 pages, tinted paper. Regular price $1.50; our price 45c.

LIFE OF REV. LEMUEL HAYES, A. M., by Timothy M. Cooley, M. D.; 350 pages. Regular price $1.00; our price 30c.

THE CONNECTION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES, by Mary Somerville; 340 pages. Regular price $1.25; our price 40c.

THE DAUGHTERS OF ENGLAND, their Position in Society, Character and Responsibilities, by Mrs. Ellis; 336 pages. Regular price $1.25; our price 40c.

SERMONS ON THE FESTIVALS, by John Armstrong, D. D.; 261 pages. Regular price $1.25; our price 40c.

GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR THE ARMIES OF THE UNITED STATES (1870); 240 pages. Regular price $1.00; our price 30c.

CLIATTA, and other poems, by Howard A. Caldwell, 200 pages, tinted paper. Regular price $1.00; our price 40c.

HISTORY OF THE CEMETERY OF MT. AUBURN; by Jacob Bigelow; 200 pages. Regular price $1.25; our price 40c.

THE MOTHER'S MISSION, or Sketches from Real Life, by the author of "The Object of Life;" 331 pages. Regular price $1.25; our price 30c.

Correspondence.

HOME LETTER.

A Discussion of the Sunday Question.

Correspondence Toledo BLADE.

NEW YORK, Jan 4, 1880.

Perhaps those readers who have borne down so heavily on me for the sin of Sunday breaking, will be slightly incredulous when I tell them that the article in the Household recommending that the family washing be put to soak Sunday afternoon, was written advisedly, in view of a probable lively discussion on the subject, with the idea that it might settle some other woman's mind who was uncertain about giving herself the advantage of her week's work, by taking a few minutes of Sunday time. The first accuser, tried and found me guilty of Sabbath breaking without asking wha the offender might have to say in desence of her position, the next who followed denounced me for doing my washing on Sunday, as if the whole performance was gone through in sacred time. A third quoted scripture heavily at me as if I were a Pawnee who had always lived where Bibles were scarce. It was no more than I expected, but time has failed to give a reason for the faith within me, as I have often wished, hardly feeling it a subject for the regular correspondence, and having not an hour to write the dozen letters planned on different matters for the Household. The correspondent who kindly took up my defense last week, used some of the very arguments I had laid up, and I must thank her for her charitable way of looking at things. It may relieve the generous sympathies of some friends, however, to know that I am just as well pleased to have the matter discussed and could always take blows as well as give them. Some legal holiday, when I am not laid up on the sofa, trying to make up strength I promise myself the treat of writing to the Household, where such questions are more in place. But after turning over about half a hundred newspapers daily, for the rest of the week, the conviction is growing upon me very strongly, that the larger part of readers must be people of more taste than to wholly admire the quality of topics served up to them. I catch myself often wondering whether they would not relish something else as well as the reports of cock fights and walking matches, fashionable weddings, whose reports read exactly alike, save the names of the parties, the squabbles of railroad and gas companies, the frauds, murders, and the very coarse sort of wit which are the staple of American papers, and which British ones are learning to copy. The journal which allows in its columns some appeal to the better tastes of the people, it goes among, and devotes some space to pertinent moralizing, often as serious as any preached from the pulpit, does not seem to lose popularity by it. And if some of the thoughts which lie close to my lips find a place here, I feel confident that they touch questions many others are brooding over, questions of right and duty, at least as vital and interesting to worthy people as a sold boat race or the Spanish Ex Queen's gown.

Thirdly for my own part, on the Sunday question I may say, that so far from being unthinkingly ignorant of Bible injunctions and pious usage, I was brought up in one of the strictest Presbyterian households, whose faith in essentials I have never seen reason to forsake. Its practice however was so strict that all basking the stove, or rubbing of knives, was forbidden as unnecessary on Sunday. My conscience saw no godliness in having things shabbier and less comfortable on Sunday than any other. I have lived since I came to the city, in a Scottish household where I had a new example before me of Sunday observance. Sunday morning of Sunday observance. Sunday morning that I who came to tidy up the room found the old man on his hands and knees brushing up stray litter in front of the hearth which could have been much more quickly removed by the broom. "Why, Burns," I said, "Why don't you take the broom and do that in half the time."

"Mrs. McD, don't allow any sweeping with a broom on Sunday, ma'am," was the low answer; "she says it's breakin' Sunday, and she won't have any sweepin' but what's done with the brush."

Which is a fair specimen of the mistaken ways people take of showing their reverence for Sunday. Mrs. McD., however, with true Scotch inconsistency, had no scruples about taking hot toddy till she was very frisky, or of using some very strong language now and then. Such experience has given me more notion of keeping the spirit of the day than by generalizing it by petty restrictions. Sunday was given for rest of body and soul, a cog in the great wheel of life, and without a wise use of its rest, neither mind nor body can long keep its balance. It ought to be the day when the tired mother can take her blessed hour of rest, quite as often found at home as at church; alone, with the sweet air coming in the windows, or on her lounge before the blazing fire, with her book of devotion in reach, reading if she likes, or lying in that precious leisure, thinking, musing, threading some of the perplexities which come to every thorough mother and housekeeper, and giving that unspoken confidence to the maker of souls, which is, more than anything else, the feeding on the bread of life. I make no apologies for speaking in the belief held by the majority of my readers, and of civilized men everywhere, that the Creator of men has a kindness for the souls he has made, and that he invites them to closest confidence in Him. It is an old-fashioned belief, which the strongest minds of the world, however, have held, that He takes the warmest interest in human and individual concerns, and has infinite zeal and comfort for his beings. I refuse to believe that my Maker can do less for me than I would do for my own child, that His laws are right and His plans laid out like the rules of chess. He has his laws yes; laws undreamed of, and so, any woman troubled to know what she shall do with her wayward children or how she shall find strength to care for her household, can ask help any day or hour, sure that earth and heaven will work together, but it will find its way to her. Who does not feel the absolute need and desire at times of time to stop work and call himself together, and set mind, nerves and feelings in tune, by thought and rest. Sunday was sent to meet this need, and whatever interferes with this leisure breaks the Sabbath, whether it is going on a Sunday excursion or hurrying to get half a dozen children to church and back three times a day, till the family go to bed Sunday night, more tired than any day of the week. I have seen such instances, and have come to think that one good service on Sunday is enough for any family, and the rest of the day is much more profitably spent at home. Not as I have known it spent—read, read, reading commentary, religious paper, missionary herald, and memoir, in devout and solemn silence, broken only by the necessary questions, 'Ain't it time to get ready for meeting,' or 'there's the bell.' I used in my younger days to so fill the time with sermons and Sunday School, so much religious book and meditation, that I always woke wretchedly nervous and irritable and worldly minded Monday morning. It was a wonder and a grief where all the spirituality and lofty temper had flown by the time breakfast was over. It is one of the superlatives which 35 has over 17, that one is able to see the lowering of the spiritual thermometer was due to nerves and not spirit, and could be easily bettered by keeping Sunday according to its intention and not working on it harder than any day of the week. It don't much matter whether one's heart is in the work of going to three services and Sunday school, with perhaps a session at Mission class besides, it is not keeping the day after its meaning, and the jealous young Christian who carries his piety so far had better spend more time in his room, or thinking in his garden, than in such religious dissipation. Such keeping Sunday is just as cruel as the country habit of a wagon load of visitors descending uninvited, to spend the day, putting an end to all its quiet and sacredness. I read with much sympathy the letter of the Household correspondent who complained of such an inflic tion, which is one never to be encouraged or tolerated. Without making any pretensions in the matter, I tell friends, and hear other people tell them, "I had rather not go out Sundays or have visitors. I am so tired, I want Sunday to myself." And I never knew it to give offence. Take your religion or your belief as a matter of course, and other folks will be very apt to take it so too. Don't let anybody else cheat you out of your Sunday, and don't cheat yourself out of it either, by dissipating religiously or otherwise. I do not think this advice can be changed to any indifference to religion. Imagine any man going to hear three political speeches from ordinary speakers every Wednesday of his life. He might be a very ardent Republican or Democrat, and find it too much for him.

Sunday should be the bright day of the week. I want to see the house in order then, fresh from its Saturday polishing with clean linen about the beds and toilet covers, clean clothes on fresh bathed bodies, flowers about the rooms, work put out of sight and mind, and things arranged for an easy day. People have time to get hungrier that day than on others, and the mental labor many good people undertake is enough to sharpen their appetites, so that a good dinner is advisable. For one reason, because I hate to have Sunday appear any less comfortable than other days, lest children get an ascetic disagreeable idea of it. Beside, a tasteful meal, eaten with leisure and pleasant chat, nourishes the body and lays up a little fund of strength to begin the week with next day. It is very slight trouble to get a hot dinner, if one manages well. The turkey can be dressed and the stuffing made the night before in 15 minutes, the plum pudding baked, and only need heating over. Whether it is best to go to church in the forenoon, and rest and read afternoons, or get rested first and go at leisure to afternoon service, must depend entirely on one's feelings. However, it is not good breeding or good taste, let alone good religion, to go to church and chatter till service opens. Even before hearing a symphony concert, one enjoys music best by getting mind and head free of distracting thoughts. The last service I attended was at Dr. Tyng's old church, St. George's, the lovely Gothic church fronting on Stuyvesant Square, with its willows and fountains. The quiet light, the soft organ music were calming the mind for the exquisite service when the gallery seats which I have been fond of for a dozen years, were invaded by a troupe of ladies and gentlemen, members of the volunteer choir. I knew some of them were well brought up, of pious New England families but I must own that modern church manners rather shocked me. The whispering, the laughing, and passing of jests, would have been conspicuous at a Steinway Hall matinee. But the rector kept up till the first words of the introduction. I could but remember the different manners of some Roman Catholic friends with whom I had attended a weekly service. The serious silence from the moment of taking holy water till they were in the street again and out of what they regarded as a consecrated house, was far more becoming, more suited to the spirit of devotion than the behavior of these orthodox people, who would be shocked at the notion of seeing a play or having a dance at home as my Catholic friends did every night.

I took a lesson on this respect for one's religion from an editor, at the first great Boston Jubilee. It was opened with prayer, not one word of which was audible in the correspondent's gallery. In the bustle and chatter around us I was paying little heed to the speaker hardly visible in the throng, an eighth of a mile away. Just ahead of me I saw the musical and dramatic critic of one of the best New York newspapers, a man of polish and admired in society, who was not suspected of any particular devoutness, sitting with bowed head, keeping perfect reverence, in the chattering ranks about him, the only person I saw who showed like respect. It shamed me to the quick that a man of the world and a Catholic bred should show more sense of what was fitting and due than those of Puritan blood, and I hope never again to let Catholic or Mahometan show more respect to their religion than I do to mine.

But the best offices of Sunday are music and thought. The latter is an accomplishment and a luxury not very well understood, and how little of it goes to a Sunday classed as religiously spent. The incessant newspaper reading of the American people is responsible for the many empty brains and hearts, which in turn are answerable for the hypocrisy and the failures of many promising characters. There is a constant pouring in of somebody else's ideas, or of sensations which have no more to do with thought or heart than so much jig music. The average American stuffs himself with newspapers at every spare moment, through the week, he stuffs himself with religious papers on Sunday. Our people read and hear till they are too numb to think or feel for themselves. One chapter of a good book, one good article, which bears on daily principle and practice and sets a man thinking is worth a day's steady reading. The Sunday class is lots bad stimulant to thinking, where neighbors meet at each other's houses for informal Sunday talks on moral questions, bearing on topics of the day. It is nonsense to say that men are not naturally religious. I never saw the creature yet, man, woman or child, who could not be brought to talk about it with the utmost eagerness, get it clear of forms and cant. Moral generalizing is stupid, but get men talking about the ethics of the Indian policy, the right and justice of the labor question the honesty or dishonesty of certain business and home practices, and you will find morals as interesting as moneymaking, as politics. Bring religion and the idea of principle home to them, and if you can get them talking about religious things as men talk out in a haymow or the Village store of a rainy day, they will be very apt to be as reluctant to break up, before sundown. Surely there is enough in speculations as to the future of man, in the varied experiences of human life, which bear on faith and temper, in the record of history, in neighborhood life, and daily happenings, to weave into conversation more like the talks of Socrates or of the Disciples by the lakeside than any mere sermon. I don't think dropping into a neighbor's for a friendly chat or some music, a bad way of ending a Sunday, when tired of graver thoughts. Sunday is the day for all kindly feelings, for writing the cordial family letter, and petting the children, big and little, and giving the cat and dog an extra pat and stroke, and going to ask after a poor neighbor with a basket of eggs or a plate of dessert. Some such little exercise doing good is a vast help to learning a great deal of it. And with one's head full of the vivid memoir, or the thoughtful passage from Hamerton, it is no disturbance of mind to gather the clothes from the big basket and put them to soak for next day's washing, to begin at five o'clock in the morning and have the week's buzbear out of the way about Monday noon. One goes back to reading, fresher for the 15 minutes or half hour's interruption, and when it fits the key of the week's strength into the week's work, I don't call any woman a first-rate Christian or sensible housekeeper if she doesn't see the wisdom of it. If I were a country minister, I should set the Bible class discussing the matter in all its bearings for a lesson. How far the evil of talking about our neighbors extends might be another subject, handling without gloves the question how far kindly human interest goes, and where the harm of gossip begins, with illustrations drawn from life by each member. Whether it is ever right to deceive, and how far deceit is allowable in any case, would make a very interesting discussion, and the Christian duty of keeping good faith would be another treated, not from inaccessible hights of angelic principle, but from every day human life. I have seen such topics become perfectly absorbing to a mixed company, where everybody had the freedom of speech.

The rights and prosperity of the humblest citizen, the decency and safety of society, the very fabric of our government depends on the principles of the people. That something is wanting for a surer foundation than selfish human interest, every man knows. Godlessness and materialism are making wrecks of European liberties and safety. Something stronger than the rewards and penalties humanity owns, are necessary to keep society stable and sweet. These American people have found as yet no substitute for their religion or any improvement on their Sunday, spent neither as a day of carousing or with forbidding severity, and if I am called to account for bringing religion into a weekly letter, I shall protest with the member of Congress when questioned about his piety that there isn't enough of it to hurt.

SHIRLEY DARE.

LETTER FROM BUCKEYE.

The Effect of the Political Agitation of the Last Year (1879.)

Correspondence of Toledo BLADE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1, 1880.

Happy New Year! Happy New Year! In Washington the day is bright and beautiful with the thermometer at 47 (midday,) the ground free from frost, the streets and roads clear of mud, and the sun shining in his strength. If there is anything in agencies, the year which opens so brilliantly should be full of joy and gladness. But it must be conceded that the political heavens are full of clouds and that there is a feeling of disquiet where we have been accustomed to have confidence and faith.

The year which opens to day is to witness another Presidential contest; and never before has there been so much distrust between political parties and so much apprehension that, after all, our Republican Government will not be able to stand the strain of that intense partizanship which has been bequeathed to us by the war. The Republicans, the Republicans cast it back on the Democrats, and each appears to be equally distrustful of the other. The Democrats point to the last election and charge that we cheated them in the count. They refuse to accept the decision of their own Commission and retort on us, threateningly, that they will pay us back. The Washington *Post*, the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, and probably other Democratic papers, point exultingly to Washington and tell us that the count, this time, is to be made by a Democratic Congress. Such words appeal to be very innocent, but in the view of Louisiana and South Carolina and Maine they imply that the next election is to be a nullity and that the result will not be settled by the vote of the people, but by the chicanery of a Congress, many members of which have no legitimate right to the seats which they occupy.

The public doings of the year just closed, have tended largely to shake the faith of the country in Republican government. When the last Congress adjourned for its Christmas vacation, it had passed no less than seven appropriation bills, and the indications were that it would honestly devote its time to the public business. But when it came together in January there was a general feeling among the Democratic leaders that something must be done to arouse the party and prepare it for the Presidential election. Mr. Thurman said in caucus that the Democratic party had no issue. It had started with the intention to push its opponents to the wall on the charge of *fraud*, but the Republicans had managed to neutralize the charge, and there was so little left for the party to fight about that its strength could not be brought out. So it was proposed to make a new issue, and to stand upon it to the death. Hence arose the attempt to coerce the President into the approval of measures which he was known to condemn. When the attempt failed, Congress was in an awkward predicament, from which it could only extricate itself by a shameful outrage on the country. Needful appropriations were deliberately withheld, and great disorders must result, or there must be an extra session of the new Congress. The new Congress was therefore assembled; and, as the old Congress had bequeathed to it its pet issue there was a long and stormy session, resulting in a series of disgraceful measures which bordered closely on revolution and alarmed the whole country.

The people showed their strong disapprobation at the Fall elections, and the whole North went solidly against the conspiracy. But the solid South, consolidated by means which strike at the root of all Republican government, remains solid still, while an attempt is made to carry the tactics of that section into the North and reduce the narrow Republican margin by capturing the Republican State of Maine through an improved method of counting. Of course, with such tactics, projected in secret and carried into effect with brazen effrontery even to the exclusion of 37 members of the newly elected Legislature, the confidence in Democratic counting cannot be great; and when the newspapers exult in the fact that the same Democratic party that did the counting in Maine and in South Carolina is to do the counting which is to settle the election of the next President, we may well tremble for the perpetuity of Republican government. We have had one war because a political party was dissatisfied with an election, and if these things continue there is a good prospect not only of more wars, but of the ultimate Mexicanization of the country.

In view of these important doings of the year just brought to a close and the general distrust of the Democratic party, it will be readily understood why the people of the United States turn so confidently toward Gen. Grant. The whole tendency of the Democratic party, as seen in the Southern elections, in the course pursued by Congress, in the support of Mr. Tilden after his known attempts at corruption in Oregon and other States, and in the bold swindle attempted in Maine, is to suggest to the country that there is to be an attempt to capture the Presidency by fraud, and that Grant is the most reliable man to prevent such a scheme. In the first place they rely on his great personal popularity; then they believe that the other chieftains will yield more readily to him than to each other, that the men who are contriving fraud will have less courage in the prosecution of their schemes if he is the candidate, and that, under these threatening circumstances he will be able to save the country now as he did once before.

Hence it is that while men say they are in favor of Sherman, or Blaine, or Washburne, and while they really feel it would be eminently fit that one of these men should be crowned with the honors which their statesmanship has so well deserved, they still say that they believe Gen. Grant will be the candidate. They see that the Democrats have put the country in a position that makes it necessary to call Fabius back into the service of the State.

BUCKEYE.

Growing Industry.

St. Louis Republican.

It will probably surprise the general public to learn that there are 67 silk mills in New Jersey, with an annual product of $14,000,000, yet such will be the forthcoming report of the State Labor Bureau.

—In vain the eyes are filled with light;
In vain the cheek with beauty glows,
Unless the teeth are pure and white,
Unless the breath is like the rose;
And Sozodont alone supplies
These beauties that we all so prize.

local taxation to bring the State aid up to the educational requirements of each district. The State aid has reached the low figures of $1.22 per capita for whites and 48 cents for colored pupils. By a reorganization of the taxing system a 20 cent school tax would yield a much larger revenue, and teachers would be paid much more promptly were Sheriffs not allowed such long grace on their returns to the State.

WELCOME TO PARNELL.

He Replies to the Addresses With a Brief Statement of Ireland's Condition.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—Melville E. Stone, John E. Finnerly and J. J. Fitzgibbon, of Chicago, united with the local committee this morning, and boarding the United States revenue cutter steamed to the steamer "Scythia," and gave a welcome to Charles Stewart Parnell, the Irish land reform agitator, "in the name of the Northwestern States, which represent in a great measure the farming and producing interests of our country," New York's committee also presented an address of welcome.

Mr Parnell replying to addresses spoke as follows; "I regret that my power of language is not sufficient to convey to you my appreciation of the kindness and honor that you have done me in meeting me this morning. I feel indebted to you individually and collectively. It has always been a great pleasure to me to come to the United States of America. I could have wished that the circumstances attending our native land were of a more happy and prosperous character but we must hope and believe that the time is approaching when we may be able to speak of Ireland as other men speak of their own country and that we may be able to speak of her as really and truly among the nations of the earth as you have very well expressed in your address. Our task is of a double character. We have to aim against the system which causes discontent and suffering in our country and we have to endenvor to break down that system, and with God's help we are determined to break it down. We have also to see that the victims of the system are not suffered to perish. In the mean while we are to take care that the unity and strength of our people is not broken and that now, when the opportunity has really come for the settlement of one of the leading questions in Ireland, that the opportunity may noe be lost. The physical suffering and misery and starvation of large portions of our population in Ireland, has not been exaggerated. We have been calling upon the Government for eight months to relieve that distress, but it has only been within the last five days that the English Government has agreed to admit that there is any distress. This was brought to their notice by a letter from the Duchess of Marlborough, wife of the Lord Lieutenant, which states that there was going to be famine and dire distress during the coming Winter. It is what we have warned the Government and our people at home and abroad for sometime and only now that it is too well spread for any effectual remedy, do those rulers in England appear to understand at all their responsibility.

We who have been working at this great land question and have taken the responsibility off the shoulders of the Government, have not, up to the present, made any appeal to Government for the relief of the destitution of Ireland, but we feel that we cannot longer shut our [illegible] requirement is merely merely. It does not aim at depriving the people of their right of suffrage or of their right of representation for formal errors, but aims at avoiding such a result. Where the constitutional requirement has not been fully or defectively executed by town officers, it is in aid of the constitutional provision to supply the omission or deficiency as nearly and as correctly as may be. Such is the purpose of the statute. It is competent for the Governor and Council to allow the erroneous return, or one that is informal or defective, to be aided and corrected by an attested copy of the record, as by statute provided. The object of the constitutional provisions respecting elections is to furnish as many safeguards as may be against the failure, either through fraud or mistake, correctly to ascertain and declare the will of the people as expressed in the choice of the officers and legislators. Hence the requirement that not only shall the returns be made out on the spot in an open town meeting, but a record of the vote shall be made at the same time and authenticated.

In like manner, if by accident or willful neglect there is an error or omission in the return, what can be easier than to refer to the duplicate statement by record to correct it? This the statute of 1877, C. 212 allows to be done; and while the language is permissive, it falls within a well known legal rule, that when public rights are concerned, it shall be construed as mandatory; a command clothed in the language of courtesy, clothed because it could not be doubted that high and honorable officials would unhesitatingly avail themselves of all lawful means to declare the result of an election according to the actual fact, in obedience to the fundamental principles of popular government. The Governor and Council are bound by statute. It is mandatory upon them; it imposes a duty to the public that must be performed. Whether the act referred to contravenes the Constitution in allowing oral evidence to be received, to show the intention of voters in casting their votes, is another part of the statute which we are not called upon to consider. If unconstitutional in the latter respect that would not affect the constitutionality of the other separate and independent provision.

Question 3. Is a return signed by less than a majority of the Selectmen of the Town, or Aldermen of a City, valid within the requirements of the same section?

Answer—To this question we answer that, while the Town may legally elect as many as seven Selectmen, the safe and known practice is to elect only three, and in such cases a return to be valid must be signed by a majority of them, because by no possibility can a less number constitute a legal quorum. But the rule is otherwise with respect to Aldermen of Cities. Most of our Cities are requir[illegible] by law to have as many as seven Aldermen, and none of them, we believe, have less than five to constitute a quorum. It is only necessary to have a majority of the whole number present, and when such quorum is present, a majority of the quorum may do business. Supposing the number to be seven, four would constitute a legal quorum, and three being a majority, that quorum could legally act although the fourth should refuse to join them, or should oppose their action; consequently, if the return from the City having five or seven Aldermen signed by three of them, it may be a valid and legal return, because only three may have been present; and in such case three (being a majority of those present) could legally act, although the four who should oppose their action, and refuse to join them. When such a reform is had before the Governor and Council, they can not know and have no right to presume that the return is not valid. It is the duty of Aldermen to be in session and examine Ward returns, compare votes, and of the Clerk to make a record thereof. From that record, a certified copy of which is returned, the law presumes that a quorum of Aldermen were present. The law with respect to quorum and majorities is correctly stated in Volume 5, Dane's Abridgment, pages 150 and 151, and Dillon's Municipal Corporations, Sections 216 and 217. In the latter work it is said that bodies composed of a definite number act by majorities of those present, provided that those present constitute a majority of the whole number; and to use Mr. Dane's illustration, if a body consists of 12 Councilmen, seven is the least number that can constitute a valid meeting, though four of the seven may act, and, so far as we know the law is so stated in substance by all ancient and modern authorities. The rule applicable to such cases is similar to that which applies to our House of Representatives. While the number of Representatives established by law is 151, a majority (that is, 76 members) constitutes a quorum to do business. If there is actually that number present, and the majority of them (that is, 39 members) vote in the affirmative, a valid law can thereby be enacted or other business transacted. If less than 76 members are present then no business can be done except to adjourn and compel the attendance of absent members. This is a familiar and illustrative principle applicable to Aldermen of cities, and shows how and why a return signed by less than a majority of the whole number may be, and, so far as the Governor and Council are concerned, is conclusively presumed to be valid. They have no right to go behind the return.

Question 4—Is a return by the Aldermen of the City, which does not give the number of votes cast for each person voted for as a member of the Legislature, and does not show which persons were voted for as such members in any one of the several Wards of such City, a valid return within the requirements of the same section?

Answer—We are not sure that we comprehend the full scope of this question. Our answer will meet all of its supposed purposes. It is immaterial whether the Aldermen returned to the Governor and Council the detailed vote of each Ward separately, or whether they returned the result of all votes for all Wards for each candidate together. Either mode is a satisfactory way of reaching the same result. Substance only is sought for in such matters. Nor is it a material matter that, instead of returning all names of persons voted for, there is a return of votes as scattering; provided that, however such votes may be added or substracted, some candidate or set of candidates appear to be chosen by a plurality of votes thrown. The Governor and Council cannot effectually know, nor have they the right to ascertain, that votes returned as scattering were not actual ballots with the word "scattering" written thereon. Nor is the election of candidates to be chosen by a plurality of votes to be defeated because the whole number of votes or ballots may be stated erroneously or not stated at all. The Constitution contains no such requirement, and the statutory provision requiring it is entirely unimportant and inapplicable to cases where plurality of votes elects. It is a well settled rule of construction that where the general terms of a statute embrace several subjects but are found to be practically applicable to some subjects and not to others, it is to be construed as embracing those subjects only to which it is practically applicable.

Question 5. Are returns from Towns or Cities which are not attested by Town, Plantation or City Clerk, are not valid. The attestation of a Clerk is prerequisite to any action of the Governor and Council in counting the votes (68 Maine, 588). If, however, the Clerk should be absent, a Clerk *pro tem.* may be chosen, or a Deputy Clerk may be appointed under the statue of 1877, C. 17, and the amendment thereof by the act of 1874. C. 159. The returns of a Clerk *pro tem.* or Deputy Clerk are to have the same force and effect as if signed by the Clerk.

Question 6. Have the Governor and Council a right to reject returns of the election of members to the Legislature, as required by the same section from the officers of the Towns, which were not made, signed or sealed up in open Town meeting?

Answer—The Governor and Council must act upon the returns forwarded to the Secretary of State. If they purport to be made, signed sealed up in open Plantation or Town meeting, they constitute the basis of action of the Canvassing Board. No provision is found in the Constitution or in any statute of this State by virtue of which they would be authorized to receive evidence to negative facts therein set forth. They, therefore, have no such power. The statement of the municipal officers is in that respect conclusive.

Question 7—Is the return of two persons purporting to be Selectmen of the Town, valid and sufficient evidence of the vote of the Town when it appears there were at the time of the meeting at which the election was had but two Selectmen of that Town?

Answer—When a majority of the Selectmen are absent from a meeting for election purposes, or, being present neglect or refuse to act as such, and to do all the duties required of them, voters at such meeting may choose so many Selectmen *pro tempore* as are necessary to complete the number competent to do the duties. (S. S. C. 4, Sec. 35.) In cases of death or removal of all the Selectmen two would be sufficient and competent to act. The inquiry is, if a return would be valid when there should be but two. Selectmen at the time of the meeting at which the election was held. If the other Selectmen had deceased prior to the meeting, the survivors might act, and their action would be legal. But the Canvassing Board are to be governed by the returns. Evidence would not be admissible to prove the fact that there were but two selectmen of the town. The Governor and Council cannot officially know there are only two.

Question 8—Can a person who is not a citizen of the United States at the time be legally elected or constituted Selectman of town?

Answer—A person not a citizen may be elected or constituted a Selectman, so that his official acts may bind the Town, and are valid so far as affects the public. Such an one would be officer *de facto*, and clothed with apparent right. His acts would bind the Town. Dane vs. Derby, 54 Maine, 9. An officer *de facto* is one who comes into office by color of real appointment or election. His acts in which he was informed that a more lucky turn had resulted in the entire of the entire capital of the combination "together with the profits that would already made," but encouraging him to retrieve this loss and make money by taking another venture. The story does not end here so long as there is hope of inducing the customer to further; but letter after letter is sent him, telling of the activity of the stocks, evading the inquiries prompted by his suspicion now aroused, as to the connection with the Stock Exchange which they tell him is unnecessary to buyers, and not to their advantage. If, on the other hand, the customer makes an original investment of some other larger sum, they are generally satisfied with the plucking of that paltry goose. It is said that almost no bird is done over the counter by these men, but that they confine their dealings to those answering their advertisements, or to those to whom they send circulars from their list of names of which they have hundreds of thousands. Nearly the money received is actually invested

PROFITS OF THE FRAUD.

The profits from this kind of business have been enormous. Mr. Conkling has obtained copies of agreements of partnership articles, based upon business done, which indicate the profits and he has transcript of books that leave it beyond question. Four of these firms are practically under one management. These are Lawrence & Co., Nos. 19 and 21 Broad street, and Nos. 55 and 57 Exchange Place; Adams, Brown & Co., Nos. 26 and 28 Broad street; Allen Gardan & Co., No. 54 Wall st.; and Garrison & Co., Nos. 3 and 11 Broad street. Prior to September 1, 1879, Benjamin R. Buckwalter was owner of the first two concerns, and half owner of the other two. At that time he sold his interest in the four firms to the partners one of whom had been half owner with him in two of them, who were to be silent partners and manage the four concerns.

The details of the agreement between them and Buckwalter are significant only as showing his relation to the business, but as indicating the profits from the concerns, the agreement being based upon the three months preceding its execution. For the benefit of Lawrence & Co. they paid Buckwalter $1, and executed 60 promissory notes of even date, payable monthly for five years, of $12 500 each; and agreed to execute at the end of that period a lot box, neither the Selectmen nor Governor and Council can refuse to count it.

Question 10. If names of persons appear in the return without any number of votes being stated or carried out against them, either in words or figures, is it the duty of the Governor and Council to treat those persons as having the same number of votes as another person received for the same office? And where the names is placed first in the return, if they find dots under the figures or words set against such other person's name?

Answer—When ditto marks or dots are placed under the figures or words of the first candidate's votes, the return should be counted where it appears by letters or figures in the first line, and by ditto marks or by dots in the following lines that the same class of candidates received the same vote. There can be no ground for objection, the word ditto and its abbreviation to "do," and dots or marks that stand for the word ditto, are of common use and have perfectly well defined meaning, known to persons generally. That meaning should not be disregarded. We answer the question in the affirmative.

Question 11—Have the Governor and Council a legal right to decide what kind of evidence they will receive, and what the mode of proceeding before them shall be to enable them to determine the genuineness of returns required by the article and section of the Constitution above mentioned?

Answer—We assume that "genuineness of returns" referred to relates either to signatures of officers signing or to alterations of returns. The Governor and Council have no power to reject returns on either ground, unless an objection in writing is presented to them setting forth that the signatures of such officers (or some one of them) are not genuine, or that the return has been altered, after it was signed; then notice thereof should be given to all persons interested, and where adjudicating upon facts the Governor and Council should be governed in admission of evidence by established rules of evidence in accordance with the law in this State, and the witnesses should be duly sworn, that they may be punishable for the crime of perjury if ever they wilfully and corruptly testify falsely. The Governor and Council have no right to reject returns for such cause without giving the parties interested therein a fair opportunity to be heard. The genuineness of the returns in these particulars is to be presumed, and this presumption remains until overcome by evidence produced as before said.

Question 12—If the Governor and Council have before them two lists of votes returned from the same town, differing materially from each other in the number of votes returned as cast for the same persons, but identical in all other respects, both having been duly received at the Secretary's office, and they have no evidence to enable them to determine which is the true and genuine report, are they required to treat either of them as valid?

Answer—When two lists of votes are returned to the office of the Secretary of State, by the Clerk of any City Town or plantation, and both duly certified, the return first received at the office of the Secretary must be the basis of action of the Governor and Council. If defective, or not a true copy of record, it can be corrected or the defects supplied only in accordance with the provisions of the statute relating thereto. This Government rests upon the great constitutional axiom that all power is inherent in the people. "It is a government of the people, by the people, for the people," and if administered in the spirit of its founders "it shall not perish from the earth." Its Constitution was formed, to use an apt expression of one whose memory is embalmed in the heart of his countrymen, "By plain people," and "plain people" must administer it. The ballot is the pride as well as the protection of all. It is the truest indication of a popular will. The official returns required from the municipal officers of the several Plantations, Towns, and Cities are and will be made by a plain people, and made, too, in the hurry and bustle and excitement of election. They are not required to be written with the scrupulous nicety of a writing master or with the technical accuracy of a plea in abatement. Sentences may be ungrammatical, spelling may deviate from recognized standards, but returns are not brought to naught because the penmanship may be poor, language ungrammatical, or spelling erroneous. It is enough if the returns can be understood, and if understood, full effect should be given to their natural and obvious meaning. They are not to be strangled by idle technicalities, nor is their meaning to be distorted by carpings and captious criticism. When that meaning is ascertained, there should be no hesitation in giving it full effect. The language of Justice Morton in Strong vs. Peter, 20 Pick, 484, is peculiarly appropriate to the subjects under discussion. "What," he asks, "shall be the consequence of an omission by the Selectmen or Town Clerk to perform any of these, their prescribed duties, and upon whom shall it fall? For wilful neglect of duty, officers would undoubtedly be liable to punishment, but shall the whole Town be disfranchised by reason of fraud or negligence of their officers? This would be punishing the innocent for the fraud of the guilty. It would be more just and more consonant to the genius and spirit of our institutions to inflict severe penalties upon the misconduct, intentional or accidental, of officers, but to receive votes whenever they can be ascertained with reasonable certainty. If no return, or any imperfect one can be received, let it be supplied or corrected by the original record, if any there be. Returns should be received with favor, and construed with liberality." He adds: "From men who usually are, and necessarily must be employed to make them, great formality and nicety cannot be expected, and should not be required." The general principle which governs is, that while there should be a strict compliance with the provisions of the statute, yet when they are merely directory, such strict compliance is not essential to the validity of the proceedings under such statute, unless it is so declared to be therein. This is specially applicable when the rights of the public or of third persons are concerned. The dominant rule is to give such a construction to the official acts of municipal officers as will best comport with the meaning and intention of the parties as derived from a fair and honest interpretation of language used to sustain rather than to defeat the will of the people and disfranchise the citizen.

JOHN APPLETON, CHAS. W. WALTON,
W. G. BARROWS, CHAS. DANFORTH,
JOHN A. PETERS, ARTEMUS LIBBY,
JOS. W. SYMONDS.

No More Hard Times.

If you will stop spending so much on fine clothes, rich food and style, buy good, healthy food, cheaper and better clothing; get more real and substantial things of life every way, and especially stop the foolish habit of employing expensive, quack doctors or using so much of the vile humbug medicine that does you only harm, but put your trust in that simple, pure remedy, Hop Bitters; that cures always at a trifling cost, and you will see good times and have good health.—*Chronicle.*

Lotteries Growing in Favor.

At the recent Fair of the 7th Regiment of New York, in their new armory, a large sum was raised for the Armory Fund by the different lotteries conducted with much skill by the managers of the Fair. Schemes of chance are growing more and more in favor as the numerous church lotteries show, and still more abundantly by the remarkable success of the Louisiana State Lottery Company, whose prizes distributed monthly have rewarded buyers of its tickets in almost every town in the country.

The next regular drawing takes place on the 13th of January. Particulars are given in part in the advertisement of the Company in this paper, and all information may be obtained by addressing M. A. Dauphin, New Orleans, La., or New York.

We commend to the confidence of our readers, the firm of J. & P. Werum, whose advertisement appears in another column. They are among the first of our Toledo business men, and advertise only what they will carry out.

FLOODS IN PARIS.

The Gay French Capital on the Brink of a Great Disaster—Angry Waters Rushing Through the Bridges—Energy of the Municipal Authorities.

Special Cable to the Evening Telegram.

PARIS, Jan. 3.—The inclement weather which Paris has experienced so far this Winter came to a sudden determination on Thursday last in the shape of a thaw which softened the ice in the Seine and produced a freshet. The River rose rapidly and the mildness of the weather today, which resembles more a forenoon in May than one at the beginning of the year, had the effect of completely breaking up the ice over which so many thousands have crossed during the past month. The Seine has now become a roaring torrent spreading from shore to shore and bearing high masses of broken ice against the abutments of the bridges. The devastation promises to be far greater than that which occurred in January, 1876, when the water rose so high that the steamboats could not pass under the bridges, and the streets of the low lying portions of the city were covered with water to the depth of several feet. The greatest alarm exists for the safety of the Pont des Invalides, which crosses the Seine between the Trocadero and the Champs Elysees, which has been for some time in course of renewal. The reconstruction of the bridge was well under way. A temporary bridge, built of wood, which had been erected, was broken into fragments last night by the ice and swept away.

A SCENE OF EXCITEMENT.

Communication was completely shut off at this point. The scene along the quays this afternoon is a most picturesque and exciting one. Thousands of anxious people line the wall along the water front, watching the rushing torrent and the huge masses of ice that are dashing with terrific force against the bridges and speculating in their minds whether the resisting power of the massive structure will be sufficient to withstand such gigantic blows. At the Pont de la Concorde the depth of water at the present time is six mettres, and the River is still rising at this point, where, on Christmas Day, vast crowds crossed on the solid ice. The current is running at the rate of seven miles an hour. The municipal authorities have just ordered the stoppage of all traffic across the following bridges: Point Solferino (an iron structure of three arches, erected by Napoleon III. in 1858, and crossing the Seine just at the corner of the Tuileries), the Pont de St. Pere (also of iron, with three arches, crossing the river close to the window of the Tuileries, where King Charles IX. fired upon the hapless Huguenots at the massacre of St. Bartholomew) and the Pont des Arts (iron structure, of seven arches, crossing the river from the corner of the gardens of the Louvre). Not even foot passengers are allowed to cross on any of these bridges, the approaches being guarded by Sergents de Ville. The other bridges, which are mainly structures of stone, are completely choked up by the extra traffic thus forced upon them, and, to make matters worse, the crowds on them are increasing every moment. The utmost vigilance will be necessary to avert a terrible calamity.

NEPOTISM.

How Democratic Reformers Pension Their Relatives on the Public.

Forney's Sunday Chronicle.

Much fault has been found with Gen. Grant for foisting his relations upon the public and for providing them with fat places while he was in power; yet the very men who were loudest in censure of such "nepotism" are now using their own brief authority in the same way. Glancing at the Senate we see the following record: Sen. William Wallace, of Pennsylvania, has his son as clerk of a Committee; Sen. Morgan, of Alabama, has his son in a similar capacity; so also Sen. Eaton, of Connecticut, Vance, of North Carolina, and Johnston, of Virginia, have sons as clerks of committees; Sen. Jones has his brother as clerk to a committee; Sen. Voorhees has his son as clerk in the House

The Household.

CORRESPONDENTS writing for this Department will please observe the following rules:

1. Write Household Department on the envelope.
2. Give real name and Post Office address—not for publication, unless you wish—but for reference in case it is necessary to address you by mail
3. Write only on one side of the paper; write plainly as possible, and do not interline.
4. Be as brief as the nature of the subject will allow.

Odds and Ends.

The faint sweet odor of a rose geranium leaf greeted me, as I opened a letter from one of the Household sisters, and the words within have haunted me ever since. "I was glad to hear from you, for I was lonely and discouraged, and it did me good to know that some one thought of me." Do we always realize the worth of kind words and sympathy to a lonely tired heart; if we did I think we would be more ready to give them. Ere this meets the eyes of the BLADE readers, Christmas will have come and gone—the day of "peace on earth, good will to men." May the holy influence of the holiday season fill our hearts so full that words of love and kindness may overflow on all around us. What wonderful secrets have been hidden away, for the last few weeks, to be brought to light on Christmas morning! Even the little ones have been busy over the heart of pennies, preparing some surprise for papa and mamma, and older brothers and sisters. It is well to encourage the children to make little sacrifices, in order to give pleasures to others, for if anything on earth is particularly disagreeable, it is a selfish person, and children who always want the best of everything themselves, make selfish men and women. It takes a great deal of tact to always get just the right thing for a Christmas present, but all people may have tact enough not to let the fact be known if the gift is not just what was wanted. How many tears have been shed over thoughtless words, spoken on the receipt of some little gift that had cost hours of labor and planning to the donor. There are so many pretty and useful things to be made, and bought, in these days, that all ought to be satisfied.

FOR REAL AMUSEMENT,

for the children, I know of nothing better than the packages of matched pictures. They are really beautiful, and will keep little fingers busy many a stormy day, and long winter evening, it takes such a little thing to make a child happy. Let us make the holidays joyful for the little ones, even if our own hearts grow sad as we hear the ringing of the Christmas bells, over memories of the "long ago."

Did you ever think, mother, while you were preparing little gifts for your little ones of the other mothers, who weep bitter tears over broken toys, thinking of the little hands that once held them, new so still and cold, who look out at the softly falling snow, and think of the little graves it is covering up out of their sight?

Disease and death are abroad in the land, and in many a home the holidays bring no gladness, because of a "little coffin, wreathed with flowers, carried through the door."

What has become of so many of the faces that once appeared in the household; we would greet the new comers with a tender welcome, but still we watch every week for the old familiar faces.

Rosella! Rosella! did you dream what a disturbance you would create in the Household by your slighting remarks about "Philander's" mother? Only see how many valiant defenders the respected old lady has. Didn't you know that it is only the men who are privileged to abuse their mother-in-law? Like another who lately wrote in the Household, I, too, would plead for a little more charity. Don't be so ready to snap each other up on the least provocation. While we all expect to have our opinion criticised, if anybody sees fit, let us endeavor to be charitable to the opinion of others. We cannot all see alike, and it is not right that we should.

The tobacco question has been thoroughly discussed in the Household, but I am surprised at the few defenders of the weed that have appeared. For my part, although tobacco never had a bitterer foe than myself, I believe that if I had a husband that smoked or chewed, and I could not induce him to give it up by reasonable argument, I should submit to the inevitable and let him smoke and chew to his heart's content. But there's the point, girls, if you dislike tobacco, don't marry a man who uses it, and if you don't want to be a drunkard's wife, don't marry a man who drinks. We had our choice this Winter of hiring one of two boys, both probably equal as to ability to work, but one smokes and the other don't. Now it would make me perfectly miserable to have the house constantly filled with the odor of stale tobacco smoke, so the boy who didn't smoke got the preference.

To the lady who wanted to know how to make rye bread let me say: Take two very best of yeast, sponge and kneed and make just as good as you can, and then throw the whole mess into the swill pail, at least there is where it ought to go.

A shorter way to curl feathers than already given, in the Household is to throw salt on live coals, and shake the feather over it; if not too much worn, they will look as nice as new.

With Holiday greetings to the House hold one and all, I will close.

Argyle, Wis. JESSAMINE.

Flower Stands and Boxes.

One of the elegant flower stands or wardian cases, which are so often advertised, would be an agreeable acquisition; but many ladies, who love and appreciate the beautiful, can with difficulty meet the expense of such a purchase.

Almost any one, by using a little ingenuity, can make a very respectable flower-stand, which will give her greater real pleasure than one far more expensive, for she has planned and made it herself.

Let me tell you how I made mine. It consists of two parts, viz.: a warming-pan and a box for the flowers. Of the former I shall first speak. By means of shave and plane I made the legs of some chestnut logs taken from a pile of wood; when completed they were perfectly square at the top, but soon changed to a round form, tapering gradually toward the base, in which some casters were inserted. I then nailed two boards, nearly two feet long and four inches wide, on the inside of the legs at the top, letting the corner of the leg project one inch beyond the end of the board. This space is for the fastening of the ends. From the desired width of the box, when finished, I subtracted twice the side of the leg, thus obtaining the dimensions of the end pieces, which, like the sides, should be four inches wide and one inch thick to meet the outer corner of the legs.

In this way I made one end. For the other I cut a place one inch deep in the upper side of the side boards, and in there hollow firmly fastened a narrow board of the same length as that used for the first end, thus making this frame-work even as to itself, and also as to the top of the legs.

I then nailed boards over the upper and the lower side, as one would put the top and bottom on the box, being careful to have them very firm, thus making the cavity within a tight box, which, being beneath the plants, was intended for a pan of hot water to give bottom heat. The the top of this "warming pan" has holes bored quite thickly in order that the steam may more easily penetrate the soil above.

In making the flower-box I nailed on the end pieces, first having cut a place in the bottom of one for the opening in the "warming pan." I place the side boards even with the bottom of the ends, and nailed them firmly to these, the bottom and the legs.

For the end door I fitted a board to the opening of the pan beneath and hung it with a hinge. I now had the plain box in a state of completion, but wishing for some ornamentation, with a knife I cut a design in some thin butternut boards, and overlaid the whole box, letting the scalloped edge fall below the bottom, thus giving it the appearance of carved work. After the door in the end has been covered with this trimming it is scarcely perceivable.

The flower stand is 22 inches wide, eight inches deep, and nearly four feet long. When stained with asphaltum, it was very pretty and satisfactory, and has been much admired.

For soil, I used two parts of leaf mold and rich loam from the woods, one part street scrapings and compost, ont peck of pulverized charcoal, one pint each of slacked lime, wood ashes and soot, thoroughly mixing the whole. With this I filled the box, first lining it with moss, over which I placed a layer of pounded charcoal.

In the center I plunged a thrifty Calla; on one side I planted a rose geranium, on the other a coleus, filling the remaining space with china pinks, florists' pinks, stevia, double variegated petunia, regonias, and other small plants. About the edge of the box I set some gysophila muralis, that had seeded itself in the border; I also scattered some seeds of the linaria cymbalaria among the other plants. I put mauranaya and adlumia cirrhosa in the ends. All of these are now growing finely, and bid fair to cover the soil with their delicate green. I plunged my calla in the pot that its feet might be constantly kept wet without injury to other plants.

Last winter I gave it the same treatment, and it grew exceedingly well, blossoming all through the Winter and Spring, and even in the Summer. One Summer I turned the pot on the side, and left it to care for itself, when one day I looked, and lo! there was a fine large blossom: since then I have set it in the ground in the Summer that it may gather strength for the coming Winter; but it always blossoms just the same. I put it early in September, using sand, sod and cow manure, each being well rotted, in equal parts. I keep it in the shade for a few days and water sparingly until it gets established, then give it hot water in abundance, but with care, for if it receives too much at a time the roots will become cooked. Press the earth up a little around the stalk that it may not be injured.

On a shelf, next the window, I have some Geraniums in five inch pots, which were started from slips last spring; they are already in bud. The shelf hangs below the window from screens fastened in the walls.

Last Winter I wanted a shelf for small pots placed across the window in such a way that the shade might be dropped between it and the window. After considerable thinking and planning, I sawed out two small brackets with a fret saw, leaving one side of each plan to fit the window-casing, I made the shelf long enough to reach across the window and rest upon the brackets. From the back side of the shelf, between the two brackets, I cut a strip one inch in depth, rounded the corners on the front and nailed the brackets close to the ends of the shelf; sawed out a pretty design to nail on the ends, which gave it a finished appearance. After it was stained and hung upon screws put in the wall, I thought it very pretty, and have since found it quite serviceable.

I have seen advertised a patent portable window garden; but the one I am about to describe is unpatented, so any one can make a similar article. For the bottom a board two feet and six inches long and one foot wide is necessary. The end pieces are 12½ inches long and eight inches wide, and should be carved or sawed in some pretty design; nail these on the ends of the bottom, making the fronts even; but letting them project one-half inch beyond the bottom on the back side. Make the front board, which should also be carved, eight inches wide and long enough to lap by the edge of the ends, to which it should be nailed.

Our box is now finished, with the exception of back, for which make three small brackets, placing one in the middle and one at each end; the brace of each bracket should be eight inches in width at the top.

This box should also be stained with asphaltum and hung by the brackets against the wall under the window. Either pots or plain box of nearly the same size may be set within. It will contain quite a number of plants.

We have various devices for hanging baskets; but the prettiest I have made is of pine boards in the form of a hexagon larger at the top than at the bottom. I nailed small silk spools, split in halves, on the corners in a vertical row, thus making them look as if turned out. On the side and bottom I nailed deep deep thread spools, with some larger silk spools; then stained, varnished, and put screws in near the top for the cords. If the basket is large, three at equal distances will be necessary; if small, two are sufficient. Cords may be made of twine and covered with old dress braid which can be put to no other use.—C. J. A. *in Floral Cabinet.*

Diphtheria.

My experience in this dreaded disease enables me to state that the frequent gargling of the throat in the commencement is of the greatest importance. Do not wait and trust to a physician. They all, doubtless, do the best they know in their judgment, but they cannot be nurse and doctor all the while. I say all the while, because so many mothers gladly gives the gargling process up to the doctor, when they should try and be brave enough to do it themselves, in some instances as often as every two hours.

Do not wait for the doctor to come when you find your little one is attacked, but mix vinegar half a teacupful, pulverized alum teaspoonful, salt the same or more, a little cayenne pepper; cook it. Next make a swab on the end of a firm, round stick by binding on a small piece of linen or cotton cloth; use only once and burn it, i. e., the rag. Take the handle of a teaspoon and press the tongue down so as to see plainly the condition of the throat; swab quickly and draw out. Do not worry the child by poking the stick down its throat a half dozen times, make a sure thing the first time, for if you touch the affected parts, well; better do it again in two hours. If the patient is taken with vomiting, lose no time, but give an emetic some way—mustard and water, tincture of lobelia, if you know how to give it, if not, let it alone. Put the patient in bed, and sponge under cover as often as every three hours, the body well with soda water—a tablespoonful of soda to one quart of water; put cold water on the head. Next, put poultices of onions pounded fine and warmed, on the feet, and some in a light bag on the stomach—all helps so draw out the posion; also, put mustard on the muscles of the arms, above the elbow. In bad cases the charcoal poultices are good on the throat, but in mild cases pork, sprinkled well with pepper—a little red, more of black, and salt. Bind it up behind the ears, tying on top of the head; by so doing you reach the glands back of the ears. Give physic, and gruel, or something light, for diet while the fever lasts. If there should be a dark ridge on the arms when you take off the mustard, you need not be afraid of that. The mustard can then be left off for a time. Should you employ a homœopathic physician, he may not like you to use onions, but you can cheat him a little with the mustard! Alas, that so good a vegetable as the onion should have so bad a smell.

Now, if I could see every anxious mother, who may have to contend with such sickness, and tell them of the little fellow with this disease whom I nursed in the East, 15 years ago, who cried every time I swabbed his throat, and said I should never do it again, it hurt so; and I replied, "O, Hoosie, I must, or you will die, and then I shall have no more little Houston any more, and Aunt Sarah and Uncle Dee won't have any little boy any more." "O, yes, they will. I ain't their own little boy, and they can get somebody to give them another, and I'd rather die any time than to have that old swab in my throat any more." But the swabbing was kept up a fortnight, and I had to resort to all methods of persuasion. He got well and cried to come West with Aunt Mary, many years ago. He is a young man now. M. E. B.

Shall we Drift With the Tide?

For what were we placed in this world? To sit idly down and wait for the ship of Fate to land its treasure at our feet without any effort of ours to merit the same? Oh, no, Life is one great moving Panorama, and we were placed here for some good purpose. We may toil on for years before we find the special groove for which our ability fits us. It requires perseverance, patience and hope.

Perseverance to gain the position which we are striving for, even though our feet falter bo the way. Patience to bear the burdens of life without murmuring or trepining—looking forward to the bright-day-star of Hope that beams as on, step by step, over the rough places till we pass out into the bright beyond.

Should this life that God has given us be filled up with fashion and frivolties? is there nothing higher and nobler to attain to?

Mothers do you consider the responsibility resting upon you when you receive the tiny form in your arms that God has given you? Are you training those little minds to be an honor to you and the world when they shall arrive at maturity? Oh, watch the little feet with tenderest care, for the lessons taught them now will make a lasting impression.

Teach them to be true men and women, having some object in life worth living for, keep them off the street, Let them learn some trade, or, if them for such branches of business that will enable them to earn an honorable living in this changeable world. For the one that has wealth to day, may be a pauper to-morrow. Teach them to be self-reliant, dependent upon their own exertions for their daily support. Then, when misfortune spreads her dark wings around them, they will be able to cope with it, knowing that the life they have lived has fitted them for just such battles.

Our young people of to-day need to be roused from the lethargy that envelops them, to a life of activity that would require all the energy they possess, to carry them through the world.

Our nation is calling for men of honor, of principle, men that cannot be bought off from the right—to fill the highest positions that our country can give, and our boys should be trained with such an aim in view.

And the time is surely coming when our daughters will occupy positions of trust, and recognized as useful members of society, instead of the butterfly of fashion. Let their influence be for good and their thoughts pure.

"Like flower seeds by the wild wind spread,
So holy thoughts are strewed,
The soul whence those high gifts are shed,
May faint in solitude."

CIBBIE.

Angola, Ind.

School Government.

I have had a number of year's experience as a teacher, and feel quite an interest in our schools, especially our common or district schools. There are a great many theories about controlling a school which would be good, if they would work as perfectly in the school room as they do in our imagination. Moral suasion is one of the first and greatest qualifications of a successful teacher, and no teacher can succeed who is not well gifted with persuasive power. But there are those who will not yield to kind treatment, and just what to do with such scholars is not an easy task to decide. Perhaps months, or even years, if continued kindness might subdue them; but a teacher has not time for that, and as a single disobedient scholar may destroy the object for which a school is maintained, it is quite necessary that he should either be controlled or dismissed as soon as possible. I am convinced that scholars should not be dismissed from school only in very aggravating cases, and that teachers should be allowed to use a reasonable amount of careful punishment to subdue them. Just what would constitute a reasonable amount is not easily determined and abuses will grow out of such a system of school government, but I think there would be less abuses than by any other. With such a system parents or scholars who feel that they have been unjustly dealt with by their teacher, could submit their case to a jury of 12 disinterested men, whose duty it would be to judge of the reasonableness or unreasonableness of the punishment. I believe that moral suasion can very often be greatly aided by physical force, and that by compelling scholars to obey, they learn to love and respect us. How often do we hear teachers relate their experiences with a vicious scholar who afterward became one of their most esteemed friends. There is great danger in dismissing even an unruly scholar, if such a one has the sympathy of the school, the teachers work for good is ended. Whereas, could he have been subdued and taught to obey, the respect of the scholars for their teacher would have been greatly increased.

MARK FARNSWORTH.

Quincy, Mich.

Sitting Up.

Brownie, I was so pleased to see your letter on this subject for just think I sent one on the same subject some time ago, but unhappily (to me) reached the waste basket. You say is it proper, I say no! nor pleasant, nor anything else that I can think of. You wonder what they can find to talk about until midnight! I do not believe you would find their conversation very *edifying*. When I first went into company, I saw it was the general custom with young people to sit up until midnight, and sometimes until 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning, but I abhorred it from the first. I thought perhaps I should meet some one in time I liked well enough to endure it, but I did not; I have met several gentlemen that on acquaintance I liked very well and should not have objected to a better acquaintance, on other terms than these sparkings, but I knew the consequences of a visit from them and excuse them as I best could. The custom seems so common to most persons that I am called queer, etc., and I have not the *nerve* to tell them my views on the subject. I would much rather spend my evenings with a good book, or paper, or favorite study, than go through such torture. I always laid the blame on the *gentlemen*, as I knew there are many girls that would much rather spend two or three hours in an evening with a young gentleman either in conversation, music, or games, or on nice evening a ride or pleasant walk, than go through these forms of love making a whole night. Young men defend yourselves. HOPE.

Ohio.

Reformed.

I am not in the habit of writing for the papers, but as I see a good deal in the BLADE about tobacco, with your consent, I will give some of my experience. When I was a little past 16 years old, I left home to learn a trade, and the very day I left home I commenced chewing tobacco. I followed it up for 38 years. I have been a church member from boyhood and have thought for many years that I could not quit its use; but last Winter I got to thinking about it, and the more I thought the more I was impressed with the idea that I could not pray acceptably with my mouth full of tobacco, and concluded I would quit, and I did stop short off and, oh, I am so glad I did. Well, I have always been a pretty healthy man, but it has always been said of me that it would take two men like me to make a shadow. My hight is five feet, eight inches, and my weight has been, in Summer, 135 to 140 lbs., and in Winter never over 147 lbs. I quit on the 5th day of last February, and since last March my weight has been from 155 to 162. I feel well and sleep well, and seldom have had dreams except when I dream of chewing tobacco, which is pretty often, and that worries me so bad that it always wakes me up. Now let me tell you how I quit. I had resolution and faith in God that he would help me, and it did not go very hard with me. I have no craving for it now, and it is so pleasant to think how much better I can use that money than for the filthy weed. Now I don't say that no man can live a Christian life and use it, but I do undertake to say that I can't. Now think of it, dear Christian readers, can a pure God accept of a prayer from a foul tobacco mouth? R. S. E.

Silver Lake, Ind.

Home-made Honey.

Crystal Honey.—Take 10 pounds of soft water, two and a half pounds of honey, 40 grains of cream of tartar, 12 drops of oil of peppermint, half an ounce of gum arabic, 10 drops of the essence of wintergreen, put them into a brass or copper kettle, and let them boil for five minutes; then take two teaspoonsful of pulverized slippery elm bark, and mix with one pound of water, then strain it, and mix into the kettle; take it off and beat up the white of two eggs and stir them in, let it stand two minutes, then skim it well, and when nearly cold, add one pound of pure honey. A small quantity of slippery elm bark will thicken a pail full of water to the consistency of honey. I have tried the above recipe and know it to be good. I made my own honey until I got bees to make it for me, but honey made by this recipe is as good if not superior to the genuine. One half of the honey sold in large cities never was inside of a bee-hive.

We have 13 colonies that are doing well, providing us with honey the year round, and some to spare. But last year they did not swarm. As Pollyantnus said, they "hung out on the outside of the hive like so many politicians around a beer saloon.

Some time I will tell you how I made a tidy. E. M. BISHOP.

Pawnee, Ill.

Sleepy Scholars.

I am a young schoolmarm who knows a good deal more of the science than of the art of teaching. Therefore, the part of the Household that I like best is the discussion of the schools by old and experienced teachers, and I hope it will be a topic that will not be exhausted for many months to come.

I wish some one would give me a remedy to keep little scholars awake in school, i. e., those from six to nine. I let them go out to play about half an hour before and after the recesses, sometimes longer; but even for the short time they were kept in, it was hard work to keep them awake.

THAT QUEEN GIRL.

Monroe, Wis.

Queries, Answers, Etc.

W. H. B., of Springfield, Illinois, wants a remedy for perspiration of the feet.

Will some one tell me their mode of keeping sweet potatos through winter?—A. M. CASE.

I wish a rule for coloring bleached rye straw black and dark brown.—TISSIE, Franklin, Ill.

I wish I know how to make raisins out of grapes. Can any one please tell me? —MRS. M. WILSON, Alton, Ill

Will you please inform me how to arrange an aquarium for fish, and how to care for one, and oblige. IVY LEAF

Will not J. K. Bridges, Gowanda, N. Y., send the remedy he mentions to the columns as that all may have the benefit of it?

TO DRIVE AWAY LITTLE ANTS—Sprinkle flour of sulphur where they congregate and leave it there and they will not trouble you.—NELLIE.

Will some of the Household sisters tell me an easy, simple way to make pickle of the small onions of which we always have so many in the Fall?—NELL.

If the person who sent me a roll of delaines and asked for a cactus, will please write me, or inform through the BLADE, it would greatly oblige.—HOPE ELDRIDGE, Red Willow, Neb.

If Tulin, of Disco, Michigan, will direct letter of inquiry to box 59, Spencerville, Dekalb County, Indiana, she will learn what experience has taught me about churns. Mrs. Jane Butler, Spencerville, Indiana.

If the lady that wrote an article for the BLADE, Nov. 13, will send me her full address, I will write her, giving her information concerning callas and geraniums. Her signature was "Trust."—NELLIE DAVIS, Wabash, Ind.

[Why not write it for the BLADE?—ED. HOUSEHOLD.

Anna C.. I take starch with enough water to starch the amount of goods, dip in and rub them heavily, wipe them until there is no signs of any starch on the linen, then roll with a dry cloth, and let it stand one hour, and polish well before beginning to iron, and you will have no trouble at all. Will some one tell how and what kind of paste is used for decorating flower-pots and oblige MAUDE.

I return thanks to Mrs. Hopkins for her kindness. Have tried her remedy but have killed more than cured. Can some one tell me so I can understand what purl stitch in crochet means? Some one wants to know what will take corns off. Pare them and put tincture of ammonia on them. It surely will take them out. I have just taken a wart off my forefinger with ammonia.—MRS. BELL SHERMAN, Vinco, Ill.

Can some reader of this Department give a receipt for coloring red on cotton by using coppers? It was published a long time ago. Can any one give a good rule for coloring red on cotton suitable for carpet rags.

Some time since a recipe was given for making an improved soap, by dissolving bar soap with the addition of chemicals. The paper containing it has been accidentally destroyed. Will the person who gave the recipe repeat the same through the columns of the Household, or any person who has the recipe. Please give full directions.—A. P. P., LaGrange, Ind.

Our Young Folks.

THE LOST DIMPLE.

My little boy lies in his trundle bed,
With his chubby arms above his head,
And a rosy flush on his cheek so fair,
And a gleam of gold on his tangled hair;
His beautiful eyes, so soft and blue,
Neath rose leaf lids are hidden from view;
For sound asleep is my little boy,
My troublesome comfort, baby Roy!

But ah! there's something upon his cheek
Of which I do not like to speak;
So I kneel beside my baby dear,
And softly kiss away the tear.
And I kiss from his rosy mouth a pout,
Which even slumber has not smoothed out;
And I have another kiss to spare,
To smooth the frown from his forehead fair.

How came the tear and the pout and frown
On this dear little face to settle down?
Ah, well! I'm sorry to have to say
That Roy was a naughty boy to-day.
It wasn't pleasant to play, you see,
When Roy and mamma couldn't agree;
So he went to Dreamland to find a smile,
And the dimples will come in a little while.

There's one should be in his cheek, right there,
And one belongs in his chin. 'Tis rare
That I look in vain for the merry trace
Of the winsome dimples in baby's face!
But, by and by, he will open his eyes,
All soft and blue as the summer skies,
And then he laughs at my merry call,
I shall find the dimples, the smiles, and all.

—*Wide Awake.*

Twenty Miles an Hour.

It was the 6th of January, that great holiday in Russia, when the River Neva is consecrated with pomp and ceremony, when soldiers parade and priests say mass, and the Emperor is visible, and the cannon roar. And it was a gloriously bright and beautiful day; but Ivan and Olga, looking out on the broad street and the glistening pinnacles of the palace chapel, watched the sledges fly by with the people all muffled in furs, were two very disconsolate children. They had an English governess—for Russian children have to study English, as Americans do French—and they had been so unruly, so impatient and indifferent to lessons, that Miss Stanley had forbidden their going out to see the sights. This was hard, indeed, but it was needful; that the children could not understand, and they walked from the great porcelain stove, which reached to the ceiling, over to the double windows, all packed with sand and having curious little paper cornucopias of salt stuck in it to keep the frost from making pictures on the glass, to and fro, to and fro, in great unhappiness. Outside, the thermometer was away below zero, but inside, thanks to the stoves and the great [illegible] it was as warm as toast.

"Now, Olga," said Ivan, after an hour or two of this tiresome way of spending time, "I am not going to stand this any longer; if I can not go to the Neva, I am going to have a ride on one of the ice mountains, and if you want to, you may go with me."

"Oh, Ivan, how would you dare? You know we are not allowed to go alone, and Marie is at church, and we have no sledges."

"Tut, tut! have I not 50 kopeks [about 50 cents,] and can I not hire an isvochtchik [driver] to take us? And we can be home again before they come from chapel. Come, Olga, let us have some fun."

Olga's conscience said "no," but the temptation was overpowering, and after repeated urging from Ivan they both crept down softly to the little apartment in the large hall where were kept their fur cloaks and bashlyks, or cloth hoods, which are put over hats and ears. No one saw them. Everyone was at church, and the dvornik, or porter who guarded the front door, was snoozing soundly, wrapped up in his sheep skins, near the heater. They got their fur mitts and tippets and cloaks down from the pegs where they were hanging in the heated air, and put them on in silence. In silence, too, they lifted the huge bolts and slipped out into the street. It was too cold to speak, for the air would have frozen on their lips, and they hurried to a corner where usually there were to be found sledges, whose drivers can endure any amount of cold, and who even sleep out at night at theatre and opera while waiting for their masters. Here Ivan found what he wanted, though the man's dull gaze seemed to question the propriety of taking two children to the pleasure garden which Ivan indicated. The kopeks, however, were forthcoming, and that was all he cared about; so in they jumped, and tucked the furs about them, and away they went over the street, flying past troiskas, with their three horses and gay little sledges of every description. Their route took them away from the Neva, where was the greatest crowd, and they soon reached the entrance of the pleasure garden, climbed the great flight of wooden stairs to the pavilion on top, where Ivan hired a sled, and paid for a glass of tea, hot from the big brass samovar which is always boiling and ready for use. Olga had scarcely time to think what she was about before she was seated behind Ivan, and away they flew down the side of the frozen mountain, all as hard as glass. But now it began to snow fast, thick and furious, and the people could not keep it off the ice. Ivan was getting tired, too, and his hands were cold. This fun of going 20 miles an hour had filled him with glee; but Olga lost her bashlyk, and he found it hard to guide his sled. Suddenly he made a swerve to the left, and, with a fearful jerk over they went. It was a dreadful blow, and had it not been for the kindness of the people in charge, both might have been badly injured; but they were picked up and carried to the pavilion, rubbed with snow on their noses and ears, and finally packed in a sledge and driven home. How differently they looked at the glittering crowd and watched the animated scene. They had gone out full of excitement and daring; resolved as Ivan was to resist anything, he was now full of shame that he had got himself into a scrape. His fingers ached, and Olga was crying and complaining of her ears. As they neared their home a droiska drove up with ladies wrapped in sables, and their mother and Miss Stanley alighted.

"Ivan! Olga! where have you been? what have you been doing?"

They told their story when they got indoors, and Ivan had begged some kopeks with which to pay the waiting isvochtchik—for his money had been exhausted; and it was settled that they had been sufficiently punished when it was discovered that one of Ivan's fingers and Olga's ears were frostbitten.

Both were sent to bed for fear of further harm from the cold, which is considered by Russians the root of all evil in the way of disease; and as they sipped their hot tea again, and nibbled the slice of lemon which floated on the surface, Ivan said to Olga: "It is great fun to go 20 miles an hour; but it don't pay to be mad. I'm going to work to-morrow at those old English verbs, and I'll conquer or die."—*Harper's Young Folks.*

Sleds and Shields for Snow Battles.

The building of a fort generally uses up all the snow around it, making it necessary for the besieging party to carry their ammunition with them, upon sleds made for the purpose.

The construction of these sleds is very simple, the materials and tools necessary consisting of a flour barrel, a saw, a hammer or hatchet, some shingle nails and an old pine board.

To make the sled, begin by knocking the barrel apart, being careful not to split the head boards, as they will be needed afterward. Pick out the four best staves, as nearly alike in breadth and curve as can be found, and saw two or three of the other staves in halves. Take two of the four staves first selected, and nail the half staves across, upon the convex, or outside, of the staves. This will be found impossible unless there is something solid under the point where the nail is to be driven, otherwise, the spring of the stave, when struck will throw the nail out, and your fingers will probably receive the blow from the hammer. To avoid this, place a block, or anything that is firm, under the point where the nail is to be driven, and there will be no difficulty in driving the nails home. When this is done, you will have the top of your sled, and on this you will need a box or bed, to hold the snowballs; this you can make of two pieces of pine board and two staves, thus: Take a board about the same width as, or a little wider than, a barrel stave, saw off two pieces equal in length to the width of the sled, set them upon their edges, reversing the top of the sled, place it across the two boards, and nail it on securely. Then take two staves and nail them on for side boards, and you have the top portion of your sled finished.

The two staves remaining, of the four first selected, are for runners. Fit on first one and then the other to the staves of your top. Nail holes will probably be found near the ends of the staves where the nails were that held the barrel head in; through these drive nails to fasten your runners; to do this you must rest them upon some support, as was done before; this will hold your sled together, but to make it stronger, take four blocks of wood and slide them in between the runners and the top, and nail them firmly from above and below.

If all this has been properly done, you now have made a sled which it will be almost impossible to break; and you need but a rope to pull by.

The shield is made from the head of a barrel. Lay the barrel head upon some level surface, so that nails can be driven in without trouble.

From a strip of board, half an inch thick, and 2½ inches wide, saw off two pieces long enough to fasten the parts of the barrel head together. Fasten these strips on with shingle nails.

Lay your left arm upon the shield, mark a place for the arm strap in front of the elbow and another for the strap for the hand. From an old trunk strap, or suitable piece of leather, cut two strips and nail them on your shield at the points marked, being careful that the arm strap is not too tight, as it should be loose enough for the arm to slip in and out with ease. This done, you have a shield behind which you may defy an army of unprotected boys.—*From "Snow Ball Warfare," St. Nicholas for January.*

Japanese Top-Spinning.

At a certain season of the year, top-spinning engages a great part of the leisure time of American and English boys, and some of them become very skillful. But Japanese jugglers are the people to spin tops, and I will try to describe some of their more difficult feats, as I saw them.

I was at a Japanese juggling entertainment, and when the first part of the performance was over, the men who had been acting cleared the stage, set on it a small table, a number of swords, and a little house, like the old doll houses sold in toy shops, bowed low, and left. Immediately afterward, a richly-dressed Japanese made his appearance, carrying in his arms about a dozen tops, somewhat resembling common humming tops, and each with a long thin stem run through the bulb-shaped part and protruding at the top and bottom,—the top stem being cased in a loose sheath. Bowing to the spectators, the Japanese took one of the tops and twirled it briskly between his palms for a second or two; he then dropped it upon the table, where it spun around in that swiftly revolving, but apparently motionless state, that boy-top spinners call "sleeping." The Japanese indicated by signs that it would stop when he told it to, and turning toward the table, he lifted his hand as a command. No sooner had he done this than the top stopped as if it really had seen and understood the signal.

The Japanese picked up the top again, and twirling it as before, placed it upon the table, where it spun itself to sleep. He then selected from the swords on the floor one with a long, keen blade, and lifting the top from the table by the sheath of the upper stem, placed the point of the lower stem carefully upon the edge of the blade, near the hilt. The top spun for some moments in this position, and then began to run slowly toward the point of the sword. When it had reached the point, it leaned over at an angle of 45 degrees, and continued to revolve for several moments in that difficult position, until it was caught in the juggler's hand just as it was about to stop spinning.

Throwing the sword to one side, the performer again made the top spin upon the table, and picking up five others started them also. He then stretched a thin wire across the stage, and taking the tops from the table, placed them one after another upon the wire, as he had previously placed the first one upon the edge of the sword. They spun around for a few seconds without moving; but suddenly, as if by one impulse, they all started on an excursion along the wire balancing themselves as they went with all the nicety of expert tight rope walkers. Reaching the end of their trip, they dropped one by one into the hands of an assistant, who stood ready to catch them.—*St. Nicholas for January.*

The Idle Boy.

"Nobody loves me but Jack and Jenny," said idle Billy Doolittle. "I wish I was a donkey, then mother might call me all day to bring in oven wood and I should not hear. I don't like to work nor get lessons, and I guess I won't much more. Jack and Jen and I will go down to the turnip field and make up a house snug under the fence, and eat turnips, won't we, Jack? I'll make me some big long ears out of brown paper and tie on, and when father comes after me, I'll just get down on my hands and feet and eat turnip tops, and he will think there are three donkeys of us, and I am gone off.

"That's an ugly old lesson, any way, that Miss Walker gave me. She says I won't be a man if I don't study my lessons, and I'm sure I don't want to. What's the use of being a man and working like sixty, and have to smoke an old dirty pipe? I would twice rather be a donkey and eat turnip tops."

Miss Walker was near and saw Billy throw down his books, and heard every word he said to his pets. By and by the little fellow fell fast asleep, and she took him in her arms and carried him to the house and put him in his trundle bed. The next day she told him she would give him no more lessons; she thought it would be better for him to be a donkey, and have paper ears, and eat turnip tops, than to live in a nice house and have a good father and mother. Billy a bright brown eyes opened wide, and a smile crept into his face, and he said:

"O, did you hear me dream about that? I thought I was a donkey and had great paper ears, and Jack, and Jennie and I had such a nice time down in the turnip patch."

Then Miss Walker told him that in Mexico, and some other countries where there are no roads, the poor donkeys had to carry heavy burdens for many miles over the mountains. Sometimes they are so packed with wood that you cannot see much of the poor animal but his ears. The narrow path is very steep and rocky, and if a misstep is made he may tumble down the mountain and never get up again. So he must travel day after day and get only kicks and cuffs and not as much as turnip tops to eat."

Billy looked very sober as Miss Walker stopped talking, and said: "I guess I was only in fun when I dreamed; and if you are willing I would much rather get a lesson than be a donkey and get beaten."

A Snake With Two Heads.

Tennessee Express.

Mr. John J. Birdsong brought to this City some days ago one of the greatest natural curiosities we ever saw. It was a white and red striped snake, about seven or eight inches long, of the species commonly known as the king snake. It was alive when captured, and exhibited all the signs of life which belong to the snake species. Both heads were of equal size, with two distinct eyes, and while alive it used both of these heads in guiding its course on the ground, and would eat with both mouths, using one mouth for this purpose awhile and then the other. It is reported that it experienced some difficulty in its movements, seemingly caused by its heads not being able to agree as to direction, but as soon as an agreement of ideas could be reached it would move on in the direction agreed upon. This wonderful natural curiosity was captured by some railroad men near Medina, Tenn.

THE OLD OAKEN BUCKET.

[AS REVISED AND EDITED BY A "SANITARIAN."]

With what anguish of mind I remember my childhood,
Recalled in the light of a knowledge since gained;
The malarious farm, the wet, fungus-grown wildwood,
The chills then contracted that since have remained;
The scum-covered duck-pond, the pigsty close by it;
The ditch where the sour-smelling house-drainage fell;
The damp, shaded dwelling, the foul barn-yard nigh it—
But worse than all else was that terrible well,
And the old oaken bucket, the mold crusted bucket,
The moss-covered bucket that hung in the well.

Just think of it! Moss on the vessel that lifted
The water I drank in the days called to mind;
Ere I knew what professors and scientists gifted
In the art of wells by analysis find—
The rotting wood fibre, the oxide of iron,
The algæ, the frog of unusual size,
The water—impure as the verses of Byron—
Are things I remember with tears in my eyes.

And to tell the sad truth—though I shudder to think it—
I considered that water uncommonly clear,
And often at noon, when I went there to drink it,
I enjoyed it as much as I now enjoy beer.
How ardent I seized it with hands that were grimy,
And quick to the mud-covered bottom it fell;
Then soon, with its nitrates and nitrites and slimy
With matter organic, it rose from the well.

Oh! had I but realized, in time to avoid them,
The dangers that lurked in that pestilent draught,
I'd have tested for organic germs and destroyed them
With potassic permanganate ere I had quaffed;
Or, perchance, I'd have boiled it and afterwards strained it
Through filters of charcoal and gravel combined,
Or, after distilling, condensed and regained it
In portable form, with its filth left behind.

How little I knew of the dread typhoid fever
Which lurked in the water I ventured to drink!
But since I've become a devoted believer
In the teachings of science, I shudder to think.
And now, far removed from the scenes I'm describing,
The story for warning to others I tell,
As memory reverts to my youthful imbibing,
And the old oaken bucket, the fungus-grown bucket—
In fact, the slop-bucket—that hung in the well.

—*J. G. Bayles.*

LA CREME DES CHRONIQUES.

What the Alleged Wits of Paris Find to Say in Their Newspapers.

New York Sunday World.

"I say, old fel, you haven't got a five-franc piece about you that you don't know what to do with, have you?"

"There's one."

"Thanks—but, hello, I say, you Know, it's bad!"

"You asked me for one I didn't know what to do with!"

* * *

Prince Talleyrand once upon a time summoned his cook, who was none other than the great Careme, and said to him severely:

"I am greatly displeased with you. You served me at 8 o'clock yesterday a *salmis* which should have been ready at 7, and thus my evening's appointments were all interfered with and grave matters of state were left unconsidered or only half considered."

"Will Your Excellency deign to inform me if the *salmis* was good?"

"It was delicious, sir."

"That Your Excellency was the important point." And with a profound bow the artist retired.

* * *

Baudelaire, the poet, died of a nervous malady which began by very curious stomachic troubles; for instance, for a long time he could eat nothing but pork in one form or another.

One day one of his friends said to him in surprise: "How on earth do you manage to be able to eat pork, pork, nothing but pork? I'd get sick and tired of it in less than a week."

"Oh!" replied Baudelaire, "I cultivate a taste for it by pretending that I oughtn't to eat it—for instance, I shut my eyes and imagine I'm Moses or Mahomet."

* * *

The newest thing in the line of training for the stage is to employ naturalism to bring down one's author to the level of his audience. For instance, an actor who has to play

The Farm.

In this Department we cordially invite questions, answers, and also short communications on agricultural topics, brief crop reports, etc etc. Contributions should be written legibly and on one side of the paper only, and never on the same sheet with subscription letters. The full name and address should in all cases accompany each letter.

Coupling Sheep.

It is during this month that the farmers in this section attend to the important duty of coupling sheep. All sheep owners do not attend to this matter at precisely the same time. One farmer may be a breeder of thoroughbred sheep of some popular variety, and, wishing to raise early lambs for the local shows, must necessarily turn the ram with the ewes at a much earlier season than if this were not his object. A sheep breeder who has this for an object will, if he has suitable accommodations for young lambs, try and have his lambs come in January, or perhaps in February. This is always considerable trouble, and nothing but a strong desire to excel will ever induce a farmer to have lambs come in midwinter. A farmer going largely into sheep, and wishing to grow early lambs for the high prices which good early lambs always command, will also have his lambs come as early as he can attend to them. But, aside from these two objects, viz., growing early lambs for show purposes and for early sale to the butchers, it is not considered profitable to have the lambs come when there is any danger of loss from the inclemency of the weather. The loss from this source too often overbalances any profit that might arise from having early lambs to sell. The greatest profit from sheep breeding in this section is found to result from saving as much labor as possible, and also avoiding, if possible, all chances of loss. The first of May is a time when lambs are reasonably safe; the weather is mild, and if the lambs are attended to as soon as possible after they are dropped, they will soon gain sufficient strength to be out of danger.

We will presume that the buck has been kept from the sheep for some time; for if this is not the case, the lambs will be coming quite early and at all times. It is better that he should not only be fed for the season. It is a good plan to commence feeding a small allowance of corn or oats about six or eight weeks before the season and increasing this amount to a quite liberal allowance, which should be continued throughout the season. The buck should in no case be deprived of sufficient exercise, for if such were the case, and the stimulating food continued, he might commence the season with his vigor very much impaired. If it is found inconvenient or undesirable to keep him away from the rest of the flock, he may be tethered; that is, a fore and hind foot should be tied together in such a manner as to interfere with his freedom of action. Another method which I have found satisfactory—except that it does not prevent the buck chasing the ewes—is to tie an apron under his belly by cords passing between his fore legs and over his back in front and over his back behind. In this case the ram is perfectly safe, except for his disposition to worry the ewes. I have found no plan that would give as much satisfaction as separating the buck from the ewes. He can be fed properly and the ewes are safe from any danger of being injured, or getting with lamb before it is desirable that they should.

The buck may be turned with the flock altogether, or he may be allowed to go with them for a few hours at a time each day. Where there is a large number of ewes to be served, I consider the latter the better plan. Where this plan is adopted, the buck, after serving the ewes that may be in season, is removed, and is more apt to keep quiet, will go through the season to much better advantage and will get much better and stronger lambs than if allowed to run with the flock all the time. If it is not convenient to attend to serving the ewes, then it will be found a very good plan to mark the buck with fresh paint between the forelegs before turning him with the ewes. By adopting this device it becomes an easy matter to keep a record of the date of the service of each individual ewe; or, if this is not desirable, then it serves to satisfy the farmer that all of the flock are served, if such should be the case, or, if otherwise, to distinguish those ewes that have not been served. This is sometimes very essential to know, as the farmer might wish to turn off, during the Winter, those ewes that are not with lamb. Three or four weeks at the farthest is a sufficient time to allow the buck to remain with the ewes, after which he should be removed. An old buck is too apt to injure the ewes during the Winter, if allowed to run with the flock and on no account should an old buck be allowed to run at large. If the buck has been used for the last time, then he should be disposed of as soon as possible. If he is a young one and it is desirable to use him during another season, even then it is a good plan to keep him in a separate inclosure. The breeding ewes should be well cared for during Winter, as it is desirable to raise as many lambs as possible from the number of ewes kept. The greatest mistake, I think, that I ever made in keeping sheep was to feed my breeding ewes too high. I had a flock of 28 large long wool ewes, and I fed them pretty liberally all Winter on grain. I kept my ewes fat and feeling well, but I did not have very much success with lambs.—*F. K. Moreland in Rural New Yorker.*

National Agricultural Bureau.

An effort is being made in Congress to abolish the Department of Agriculture, and the best friends of agriculture scarcely know whether to favor the scheme or to oppose it. There is no winking the fact out of sight that notwithstanding the possible usefulness of the Department, it is at present woefully inefficient, not so much because it is in the hands of a gentleman who, perhaps, is not as well fitted for its management as many another that could be selected, as because of the inadequate financial support given it by the Government. We have never contended that Commissioner Le Duc was exactly the man for the place for the Commissioner of Agriculture should know as little of professional politics and as much of practical agriculture as possible. Still we have never had any sympathy with the authors of the fusillade of pointless jokes and ridicule which has been fired at the Commissioner. He has done the best he knew how and has not been idle, in both of which he has been something of an improvement on what preceded him. In some of his alleged "wild" experiments he has reached some degree of success which of itself ought to be sufficient to teach his bullet-headed detractors that they do not know any more than they allege he knows.

But the most serious drawback to the efficiency of the Department is a lack of funds and a lack of acknowledged dignity. It seems to be sustained or half sustained just to please the farmers, as a toy would be given a child. They felt that their calling ought to be recognized at Washington and as it was desirable to do something to please them, and upon the Congressional supposition that they did not know anything anyhow, they were given this abortion—the Commissionership of Agriculture.

Now, however, Congress itself appears to have become disgusted with the toy, or else have arrived at the conclusion that agriculture does not need any governmental assistance, it seems decidedly ridiculous that a great agricultural nation should have almost every sort of a department in its Government, except one of agriculture. Other nations which make any pretense to tilling the soil, deem the calling worthy of such experiments and protection as cost a very generous amount of money. We establish an office which is designated as agricultural, affix to it a salary which is so ridiculously small that a first class man cannot afford to accept it, and fill it with a lawyer, or at best a professional politician. When the present Commissioner was appointed, the *Western Rural* advocated the late Willard C. Flagg for the position, but he never had the shadow of a chance to get it. He knew too much of agriculture and too little of politics.

What the next move will be, if there be any, after the abolishment of the office, we do not know. It may be a part of the program to elevate the office to the dignity of a Cabinet office, but it is not probable, and it would make no difference if it was so elevated, unless the Department could have sufficient appropriation to run it. The fact that Great Britain during the past year has put her foot upon our live stock trade, because of the stupidity of the Government as shown in its neglect to properly guard our cattle from disease, is a sad commentary upon the course of the Government with reference to agricultural matters. The hog disease has been destroying our swine, and while the most thorough investigation might fail to demonstrate the cause, or to suggest a remedy, the importance of the matter demands a most energetic and exhaustive inquiry, and yet the paltry sum of a few thousand dollars was begrudgingly appropriated for this purpose. The result, as might naturally have been expected, was nothing, absolutely nothing. When Congress shall stop its foolish quibbling and fighting, and give some intelligent attention to the subject of agriculture, establishing a proper department for its advancement, and making a decent appropriation for its support, it will have done more for the solid prosperity of the Nation than has ever yet been done at one stroke in the history of our Government. Agriculture is the support of the Republic, add to neglect its interests at Washington is little short of a downright crime.—*Western Rural.*

It is Not Sour Land but Poor Land which Produces Sorrel.

Men of science sometimes tell us queer things, and one is that sorrel is an effort of nature to get rid of the acid in the soil, and to get rid of the sorrel they recommend the free use of lime to sweeten the ground, thus by removing the cause, to cure the evil.

The truth is, sorrel delights in light and dry land. The sandy plains in this country are just suited to it; when the land gets so run out that nothing else will grow, the sorrel will cover the ground. The seeds are in the ground, ready, as soon as a seeding of grass seed fails or any crop, to spring up and clothe the otherwise barren fields with their useless burden. When the soil has heart enough to produce other crops, the sorrel is kept in the background growing feebly, or not at all, waiting for its turn, which it is not slow to improve, either in patches or all over a field, just as the case may be. There are no earlier, or warmer, or sweeter lands in Saratoga County than those where sorrel is most at home and most abundant. Vegetable substance in the shape of soil, is what they lack, and when this is supplied in the form of barn yard manure, grain and grass can be produced and sorrel disappears. Run a lot out, however good it may be, and the sorrel comes in. It seems to be latent in the soil, ready to grow when its time comes, and its time will come on the best of sandy, or even loamy lands, if they are allowed to run down.

Now, let us look at the lime theory in the light of these facts. The office of lime mixed with soil is to dissolve vegetable matter and thereby stimulate growth, or to decrease the decomposition of organic matter, and thereby add to the fertility of the land to which it is applied. It is a question whether the land has, of itself any direct manurial property, and if it has, it is very small; at least its effects are very limited as positive plain food. How much land would a load of lime sweeten? On our sandy fields the sorrel would grow just as freely by a heap of it as anywhere else. If this theory of changing the state of the soil from sour to sweet, is correct, a sour apple tree could be made to produce sweet fruit by a plentiful use of lime; for, according to this sort of science, it must be an acid condition of the soil, which causes sour apples to be produced. Trees and plants bear fruit after their kind, or they do not bear at all, and exhausted lands, or empty lands, bear sorrel, because it is a plant of a low or weak order, nearly as low as lichen, and comes in where others will not.—*Col. F. D. Curtis in Rural New Yorker.*

Floors for Horse Stables.

As long as we can remember, the question as to the best floors for horse stables has been discussed. We have tried clay and ordinary dirt, but they did not prove satisfactory. Holes would be dug almost daily by the forefeet, the urine would gather there and unless great care was taken to fill them up and to smooth over the soil daily and wash the horses feet, scratches would follow, and probably what is called quarter crack result, which is likely permanently to injure the animals. Sand and even sawdust have been recommended, but as they were clearly not desirable, we never tried either. We began with plank flooring, were dissuaded from using it, but have returned to it and found it preferable to the others. We prefer hemlock, a double two inch plank, with the front plank kept well covered with straw at all times for the forefeet, and at nights to be well-bedded with straight rye-straw. We have found no disadvantages from the flooring; the feet have not suffered so far as we can discover. Some object to the planks, first, because they are hard, and others that they become slippery and the horse is liable to to fall and strain himself in getting up; but, if we remember rightly, the plank roads were not objected to on account of their hardness or slipperyness; and as to slipping, if the floor is a little inclined the water is carried back, whence a slight gutter, also inclining somewhat either removes it from the stable to the outside, or is allowed to pass under the floor through small holes in the gutter. But where these arrangements have not been made, a covering of sifted coal ashes over the floor will prevent the slipping.

We have known floors in stalls to be made of beards or planks turned up on on an edge, which is about as hard as anything can be; also, of flagstones, mortar, and even asphaltum, all of which we should suppose might prove injurious to the animal, but we have never heard that they were. Hemlock planks, laid as we have mentioned, will prove, take all the circumstances into consideration, about as satisfactory as anything that can be substituted, and far neater and not more expensive.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

A RAILROAD STORY.

How a Conductor Became the Owner of a $1,000 Bill.

Springfield Republican.

Many years ago, one night while a conductor on the Southern Railroad was taking up fares a man without a ticket offered him a large bill, and he, as conductors are apt to do, took it along, saying he would soon return with the change. The purpose of these delays is to make a quiet study of the bill in the baggage car, and see if it is all right. When he reached the baggage car with the bill, Mr. McKinney found what he had taken to be $100 was a bill for $1,000. He returned to the passenger and found he had shifted his seat. Telling him there was a mistake, that the bill was for $1,000, he was amazed to have the fellow repudiate the whole arrangement. He knew nothing of it, and insisted, and was supported by a friend's testimony, that he had a ticket, and that it had been taken up. Finally Mr. McKinney went off with the bill, which the next day he turned in to the company, with his explanation. It was deposited here in the Phœnix Bank, as a special deposit, and drew interest for several years, was never claimed, and finally was given to the conductor by the company. The only explanation was that some bank burglars were on the train; that one of them carelessly took out the wrong bill, and that it was decided safer to lose $1,000 than to risk being arrested. Probably they thought he knew of the burglary.

GARCELON'S DILEMMA.

When It Comes to Snapping Up Unconsidered Trifles of Technicalities, the Republicans Are There, Too.

Special to Cleveland Herald.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The Constitution of Maine provides that the Governor shall be elected by the qualified electors, and shall hold office one year from the first Wednesday of January in each year. Now the first Wednesday of January, 1879 was also the first day of January. It is asserted, therefore, that Gov. Garcelon's term of office expires to-morrow noon and that any exercise by him of the functions of Governor after that hour would be a usurpation of authority. Sen. Carpenter says there can be nothing plainer than that under a proper construction of the language of the Constitution, Gov. Garcelon cannot exercise any authority whatever as Governor one hour after the expiration of one year from the 1st of last January. There is no avoiding the conclusion that during the next six days Maine will be without either a Governor or Legislature. The Council will be powerless to do anything, because that body cannot act except in conjunction with the Governor, and there will be no such official. Of course the framers of the Constitution did not intend that any such contingency as this should arise, but they did not provide against it. It is very strange they did not, for in the case of invasion or insurrection the State is left utterly without any authority competent to act. I can't imagine, said Sen. Carpenter, how such a blunder was committed in an intelligent community like Maine. On being asked what effect this neglect of the framers of the Maine Constitution will have in the present case, Sen. Carpenter replied, smiling, "I am sure I cannot tell, but it seems to me that it would be a good plan for Mr. Blaine, as next friend, to take the helm during the interregnum, and administer the affairs of State."

GARCELON MUST GO.

Rep. Neal, of Ohio, on being asked to night for his opinion on the constitutional requirement, replied that it seemed to be clear that Gov. Garcelon could not hold office after the expiration of his term. Said he, "the Supreme Court of Ohio has decided a similar question in the case of our Judges. The term of office as fixed by the Constitution is five years. The term of the first Judge began on the second Monday in February. The question was raised by the Attorney General on a writ of quo warranto, and the Supreme Court decided that the terms of the Judges covered exactly five years, no more and no less. I think Gov. Garcelon must go." The questions raised in this connection are the subject of much interesting speculation here to-night.

PARNELL, THE IRISH AGITATOR.

What He Says Concerning His Visit to America.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—Parnell, in an interview, says: I consider the British Government ought to relieve the distress in Ireland, and we have been watching and waiting to see whether the Government would fulfil its duty in this respect. Finding that it did not, the Land League decided, just before I left Ireland, to receive subscriptions for the distress, and we feel ourselves compelled to say, although our primary object is to raise money in aid of the Land League, that if any charitable Americans desire to trust us with funds for the relief of the poor in Ireland we shall be happy to receive them and apply the money through our local organizations according to the wishes of the donors, but it would not be necessary for me to come to America simply to ask for assistance for the distressed Irish. America would send relief as soon as she knew of distress. In the famine of 1847 she sent assistance to Ireland before England, and she has done the same this time.

Parnell intends in a letter to give a brief history of the land question to the present time, and a description of the rise and progress of the present land movement. He adds: I expect to remain in New York a few days to attend a meeting which I understand has been arranged for. After that, much will depend upon the plans made for us by the American committee, but I expect to go next to Boston, then to Philadelphia, after which I shall go South a short distance and work around to St. Louis. Then I shall probably go to Chicago. From this point my plans are uncertain, as I wish to go to Canada and to San Francisco, and I do not know whether I can do both or not. I shall do my best to go to San Francisco, and may, perhaps, visit Canada before going West. Mr. Dillon will accompany me throughout, and I hope to be able to induce him to remain behind when I leave America to continue the work, but my return will depend on events at home.

NEWS FROM GEN. HATCH.

It is Thought that He and His Command Do Not Consider Themselves in Danger.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Sec. Sherman received two dispatches from Gen. Hatch written at Clines Ranch the 29th and 30th insts. One informs the Secretary for the first time that among the Indians offered for surrender on the 25th inst. but whose surrender was not received, were Douglass (hostile chief) and several others principal in the Meeker massacre. The last sentence of the other dispatch seems to indicate that after Gen. Hatch refused to receive the surrender of these Indians, they were permitted to go to Lower Grand River and hunt for game and that they are not likely to be found again for months. Sec. Schurz entertains considerable doubt as to this being the real meaning of the dispatch as sent and has telegraphed for explicit information. Clines Ranch is 10 miles nearer than Los Pinos to the White River agency and 25 miles nearer Lake City.

It is inferred that Gen. Hatch and his party do not consider themselves in danger, as those dispatches do not express any apprehension of that kind.

Gov. Blackburn's Message.

LOUISVILLE, Jan. 1.—Gov Blackburn's message was sent to the General Assembly to-day. The following is a summary of the important points therein: A State, whose financial condition with respect to bonded indebtedness is good, should be able to make an equally favorable showing as to its internal financial status. With a bonded indebtedness of only $180,334, and resources of $768,151, a deficit in the budget of $679,412 has a very ugly look. The Governor shows that a few extraordinary windfalls like the realization of war claims, etc., disturbed the financial wisdom of the Legislature, and led them to reduce taxation at a critical period, when such action ought never to have been taken. That the State has been the horrid victim of some very mean frauds, and has had to pay bills which had not a shadow of legitimacy. In fact that claims have been manufactured to a large amount, year after year, and thus the Treasury has been greatly depleted. Aside from the decrease of revenue, incident to the unwise reduction of taxation from 45 to 40 cents a few years ago, the Governor shows that the State is greatly imposed upon in other ways, and recommends the restoration of five cents to the State tax, counter legislation to destroy the facilities for hatching bogus claims and an entirely new deal in the valuation and assessment of property to secure uniformity, and to reach the full amount of property which should justly be taxed. He also recommends the issue of five years six per cent. bonds for $500,000.

As to the Penitentiary, the Governor takes the position that relief must be accorded by legislation to the inhumanely crowded prison house; that the present leasing system be abolished, that the State take control, and that a second Penitentiary be erected and a proper labor system be introduced.

With reference to the Common Schools, the Governor recommends a voluntary local taxation to bring the State aid up to the educational requirements of each district. The State aid has reached the low figures of $1.22 per capita for whites and 48 cents for colored pupils. By a reorganization of the taxing system a 20 cent school tax would yield a much larger revenue, and teachers would be paid much more promptly were sheriffs not allowed such long grace on their returns to the State.

WELCOME TO PARNELL.

He Replies to the Addresses With a Brief Statement of Ireland's Condition.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—Melville E Stone, John E Finnerly and J. J. Fitzgibbon, of Chicago, united with the local committee this morning, and boarding the United States revenue cutter steamed to the steamer "Scythia," and gave a welcome to Charles Stewart Parnell, the Irish land reform agitator, "in the name of the Northwestern States, which represent in a great measure the farming and producing interests of our country." New York's committee also presented an address of welcome.

Mr Parnell replying to addresses spoke as follows; "I regret that my power of language is not sufficient to convey to you my appreciation of the kindness and honor that you have done me in meeting me this morning. I feel indebted to you individually and collectively. It has always been a great pleasure to me to come to the United States of America. I could have wished that the circumstances attending our native land were of a more happy and prosperous character but we must hope and believe that the time is approaching when we may be able to speak of Ireland as other men speak of their own country and that we may be able to speak of her as really and truly among the nations of the earth as you have very well expressed in your address. Our task is of a double character. We have to aim against the system which causes discontent and suffering in our country and we have to endeavor to break down that system, and with God's help we are determined to break it down. We have also to see that the victims of the system are not suffered to perish. In the meanwhile we are to take care that the unity and strength of our people is not broken and that now, when the opportunity has really come for the settlement of one of the leading questions in Ireland, that the opportunity may not be lost. The physical suffering and misery and starvation of large portions of our population in Ireland, has not been exaggerated. We have been calling upon the Government for eight months to relieve that distress, but it has only been within the last five days that the English Government has agreed to admit that there is any distress. This was brought to their notice by a letter from the Duchess of Marlborough, wife of the Lord Lieutenant, which states that there was going to be famine and dire distress during the coming Winter. It is what we have warned the Government and our people at home and abroad for sometime and only now that it is too well spread for any effectual remedy, do those rulers in England appear to understand at all their responsibility.

We who have been working at this great land question and have taken the responsibility off the shoulders of the Government, have not, up to the present, made any appeal to Government for the relief of the destitution of Ireland, but we feel that we cannot longer shut our eyes to the terrible peril that is approaching and we think we ought to put the case before our countrymen both at home and here in America, and endeavor to enlist sympathy with our efforts. We believe that in this country the sympathy accorded will be generous and noble, despite the efforts of the English press to deprecate the merits of the American Nation. We know full well our countrymen in America will do their duty as they have in every clime, to their suffering brethern at home.

In brief, I confidently anticipate the result of our mission. I believe the result will be of such nature as to give pleasure to us and also give help to our people at home and I can only conclude by again asking you to believe that I thank you most heartily for your great kindness in meeting us on the threshhold of America. Again, I thank you." [Applause.]

Mr. Dillon, companion of Parnell, followed with a speech, in response to calls by the Committee. While these exercises were taking place in the saloon of the "Scythia," the vessel was on the way to her dock where a number of people were assembled and cheered Parnell and Dillon as they appeared. The distinguished Irishmen were driven to the Fifth avenue Hotel, where the members of several Committees and others were presented.

NOT DISPOSED TO HELP.

Quashing of a Writ of Injunction to Restrain Presbyterians in Canada From Administering Annuities.

MONTREAL, Dec. 31.—A letter of the Catholic clergy to a Committee of Irish Societies in reference to a proposal to collect funds for the relief of the distressed people in Ireland, points out that in Ireland itself, where the nature and extent of want must be well and correctly known, no general movement has so far taken place to draw help from more favored portions of the country, and therefore a proposal to collect funds in Montreal for the relief of certain portions of Ireland is premature.

The fund instituted by the Duchess of Marlborough for the relief of the distress in Ireland amounts to £8,300.

Dr. McEvilly, coadjutor of the Archbishop of Tuam, in acknowledging the receipt of £1,000 pounds from the churches of Cardinal Manning's diocese, England, says no amount of private charity can cope with the approaching famine in Ireland, and a system of remunerative public works can alone be effectual.

Michael Davitt advises that land leagues be formed in every parish in Ireland, with branches on every large estate, and land clubs in the Towns and Cities of Ireland, and in the centers of Irish population in England, Scotland and America.

A writ of injunction restraining the Board of Management of the Temporalities Fund of the Presbyterian Church in Canada from administering annuities has been quashed.

A notice of appeal at once served, the case is likely to be taken to the Judicial Committee of the English Privy Council.

A Good Time Coming.

Jewish Messenger (Jewish.)

The Jews are sailing into an open sea. The old coast line is gradually disappearing from view. Exultant to the modern atmosphere, we greet with joy each bracing breeze, let it waft us never so far from port. We are proud of newly-acquired freedom, and inspect with curious delight the modern tests and appliances. The pet words of science and philosophy we repeat with unrestrained glee; the names of modern masters are heard by us with cosmopolitan pride. It does seem as if here in America a period is approaching like that in Spain, when the ethics of the Arabic philosophers had their coterie of admirers, and Jewish thinkers like Maimonides, and Gersonides showed such marvelous intellectual acumen, and aroused such intense excitement in theological circles. Even then our people were breasting a broader current than that with which their fathers had wrestled, experiencing ideas to which the latter had been strangers. Science and religion, Aristotle and Moses, were then the opposing cries. And advanced thinkers were already breathing an atmosphere far, far removed from the Palestinian, and extending their range of view from Sinai, Jerusalem and Tiberias to the all-embracing religion of humanity.

We have received a letter from 'Philadelphia, informing us that Gen. Grant had a reception in that City last week. But we must decline printing it until the statement is corroborated. It may be a canard.—*Norristown Herald.*

MILLIONS MADE BY FRAUD.

Wall Street Swindling Exposed.

Fraudulent Dealers in Stock—How the Foolish are Deceived—Systematic Cheating—The Postmaster General's Order.

New York Tribune, December 30.

The efforts of the New York Stock Exchange to break up the business of fraudulent dealers, who transact business largely through the mails have resulted in an exposure of several concerns, and in closing the mails to eight firms engaged in bogus stock transactions. The profits from this kind of business, as revealed by the discoveries of Anthony Comstock, are shown to be surprisingly large.

FULL DETAILS OF THE CHEATING.

A large business is done in buying and selling stocks in New York, on orders for out of town customers. The readiness of small investors to partake of the profits from this kind of speculation has given rise of late to a class of fraudulent dealers who have pursued a systematic course that has resulted in total loss to the customers and a clear profit to the dealers of the entire remittance, without even the form of an actual investment. Some of these dealers assumed names either closely resembling the names of respectable dealers or even in some cases identical with them. Among these were Lawrence & Co., Heath & Co., Thatcher & Co., and others. This gave so much annoyance to the respectable houses, whose good names were in danger from the dealings referred to that some of them have several times published cards to the public in their own defense; and in November, 1878, the Law Committee of the Stock Exchange formally authorized Ralph Oakley, of the firm of Oudin & Oakley, "to collect all the information possible concerning the firms that were using the mails and the press to defraud the public by means of bogus transactions in stocks, and to use all legal means to secure the conviction of the offending parties."

Mr. Oakley at once advertised for communications from parties who were dissatisfied with their dealings with Lawrence & Co., one of the firms in question, and from them obtained much evidence in the shape of the correspondence of that firm. When that portion of the case had been sufficiently covered, the services of Anthony Comstock were obtained for the further prosecution of the matter, and his knowledge and experience of this class of fraud through the mails have enabled him, in the past two weeks, to obtain such additional evidence as will result in the complete overthrow of the fraudulent system. An order will be issued by the Postmaster General to-day, forbidding the delivery of letters and money orders to eight different concerns, the order being based upon the evidence submitted to the Department.

HOW THE SWINDLING IS DONE.

The plan pursued by these persons to cheat the eager speculator may be learned from the papers in one case, which is a specimen of all the cases, in which five letters or circulars sufficed to transfer from $10 to $100 from the pocket of the customer to the pockets of Lawrence & Co. An advertisement setting forth the advantages of dealing with this firm is inserted in the papers, and those who respond to it receive first a prospectus in which are fully discussed the "opportunities of making money," "methods of dealing in New York," vast profits already paid," unerring rules for success," the history of a supposed profitable investment—all indicating that the stock market is a bonanza to all who deal with Lawrence & Co. Letters are added from customers, acknowledging the receipt of profits remitted, with enclosures for further operations; and the circular concludes with flattering notices of the press, most of which proves on investigation to be paid "business notices" in widely circulated respectable journals. The prospectus is adorned with a picture of the Drexel building, upon the side of which is the single name of Lawrence & Co. Together with this is sent a stock letter, lithographed, enlarging upon the favorable condition of the market for investment. This is the "bait." Upon the receipt of these, the person in question sent a remittance of $10 for investment." Upon the receipt of these, the person in question sent a remittance of $10 for investment, and shortly received a letter of acknowledgment, in which he was told: "We will not send you a certificate to-day, as the combination in which we would like to have you interested is not yet filled," that there was going to be a decided move in a certain stock, which alone would show a large profit, and offering to send him a certificate for 50 shares in the combination (in which the orders were pooled) on receipt of an additional $20, giving him credit for the 20 shares not covered by his margin until the profits should be declared, of which he should have for benefit on the entire 50 shares. The letter was a "stock" letter, identical in all cases. The customer responded to this "liberal offer," as they termed it, and received a printed certificate, upon which it was stipulated that no profits or capital were to be withdrawn from the combination until the expiration of one month. In about one week he received a circular stating that "We made a turn on the Lake Shore, realizing a profit of ½ per cent., being equivalent to $50 profit on each 100 shares of stock." N. B.—Profits and its original capital to be used as working capital until the close." The victim endorsed this paper: "Raising his hopes." But in another week he received what he called "the grand ultimatum," in which he was informed that an unlucky turn had resulted in the entire loss of the entire capital of the combination, "together with the profits that we had already made," but encouraging him to retrieve this loss and make money besides by taking another venture. The scheme does not end here so long as there is hope of inducing the customer to invest further; but letter after letter is sent to him, telling of the activity of certain stocks, evading the inquiries prompted by his suspicion now aroused, as to their connection with the Stock Exchange, which they tell him is unnecessary for large buyers, and not to their advantage. If, on the other hand, the customer makes an original investment of $100, or other larger sum, they are generally satisfied with the plucking of that particular goose. It is said that almost no business is done over the counter by these firms but that they confine their dealings to those answering their advertisements, or to those to whom they send circulars from their list of names of which they have hundreds of thousands. None of the money received is actually invested.

PROFITS OF THE FRAUD.

The profits from this kind of business have been enormous. Mr. Comstock has obtained copies of agreements and partnership articles, based upon actual business done, which indicate this fact; and he has transcript of books that show it beyond question. Four of these firms are practically under one management. These are Lawrence & Co., Nos 19 and 21 Broad street, and Nos. 55 and 57 Exchange Place; Adams, Brown & Co., Nos. 26 and 28 Broad street; Allen, Jordan & Co., No 54 Wall st; and Barnes, Garrison & Co., Nos. 3 and 11 Broad street. Prior to September 1, 1879, Benjamin R. Buckwalter was owner of the first two concerns, and half owner in the other two. At that time he sold out his interest in the four firms to two men, one of whom had been half owner with him in two of them, who were to become partners and manage the four concerns. The details of the agreement between them and Buckwalter are significant, not only as showing his relation to the business, but as indicating the previous profits from the concerns, the agreement being based upon the three months preceding its execution. For the business of Lawrence & Co. they paid Buckwalter $1, and executed 60 promissory notes of $1,500 each, payable monthly for five years, of $12,500 each; and agreed to execute at the end of that period 60 other notes, similarly payable, of $5,000 each. For the business of Adams, Brown & Co., 60 notes were given of $8,333,33 each, with 60 notes to follow, of $8,333 each. For the concerns of Allen, Jordan & Co., and Barnes, Garrison & Co., 240 similar notes were given, of $1,000 each. All these notes were with interest and without grace. In case of default on any one note for 30 days all the notes given for the same concern, whether due or not, were to become due and payable, but were to be surrendered to the makers, who in turn were to give up the business and its receipts to Buckwalter. The purchasers also executed a confession of judgment, with costs and interest, to be filed upon their defaulting of payment on any note. All the money received, after deducting what was required for daily expenses, was to be deposited every week in Buckwalter's bank to his credit, and applied on the notes or, if in excess of the notes due, upon those next falling due. Buckwalter's confidential men were to be in the offices, and the mail matter, placed in locked boxes by the carriers, could be removed only by one of them, and one of the firm together each having a key to one of the two locks upon the boxes. In other ways he interests of Buckwalter were secured. His total monthly income from these four concerns, so long as they flourished as they had been flourishing, was thus to be $22,833 33 for five years, and for a second period of five years $16,333 each month; making a total in ten years $1,989,996 60 exclusive of interest.

It was further agreed that none of the men placed in the employ of these firms by Buckwalter should be removed without his consent. The books of Lawrence & Co., transcripts of which are in the possession of Mr. Comstock, show the receipts of this firm alone from March to November, 1879, to have been $205,890.90. In the month of October the receipts were $26,484.63, of which about $15,000 went for expenses (probably including advertising), and there was deposited to the account of Buckwalter $17,451.43, the excess of these sums over the receipts perhaps representing money in hand.

HOW THE BUSINESS IS TO BE STOPPED.

There are other concerns whose methods of doing business are not so well-known as yet, but concerning whom sufficient evidence has been laid before the Postoffice Department at Washington to have them included in the order to be issued to-day withholding their mails. In one of these firms, that of Charles Foxwell & Co., at No. 115 Broadway, the same man Buckwalter is said to be interested. Another of them is Simpson & Co., No. 49 Exchange Place. This firm is composed of J. M. Pattee and a man named Barrett. Pattee is said by Mr. Comstock to have been the manager of several schemes that have been broken up among which were the Cheyenne Lottery, the Wyoming Lottery, the Bullion Mining Company, the Gold and Silver Mining Company, a fraudulent Havana Lottery, and one or two "Grand Distribution" schemes. They made use of the name and services of a man named Simpson, through whom, however, Mr. Comstock has succeeded in exposing the concern. The profits of this concern, as well as those of all previously mentioned, Mr Comstock estimates, upon the evidence he has, to be fully equal to those of Lawrence & Co., as given. He says that nearly the entire business has been transacted through the mails, and that the coming order respecting the delivery of letters and the payment of money orders will surely break up the business of the eight firms named in it. These firms are as follows: Thatcher, Belmont & Co., Charles Foxwell & Co., Adams, Brown & Co., Allen, Jordan & Co., Simpson & Co., Lawrence & Co., and Heath & Co. The two firms last named, doing business at Nos. 19 and 21 Broad street and at 1 227 Broadway and No 8 Broad street, are to be distinguished from other firms of the same name, who are well known and respected.

IMPROVING NAVIGATION.

The Mississippi River Commission Solve the Whole Problem in a Few Days.

Memphis Avalanche.

The River Commission, appointed by the President to investigate the various schemes to improve the Mississippi River, seem to have taken a hop, skip and jump through the Southern waters. According to Capt. John Cowdon, who has just returned from New Orleans, either the Commission were able to solve important problems by merely passing down the great river, or left them unsolved.

It was not to be supposed that a question of such importance could be settled in a few weeks or even months; but the Commission went, saw and conquered in about the time required for a "round trip" between Memphis and New Orleans by steamboat.

It is only a few days since the "Gen. Barnard," containing the Commission, passed Memphis en route to the Gulf. Thursday night that steamer returned, containing such members of the Commission as did not go North by rail.

Capt. Cowdon's information is that the work was remarkable for it thoroughness. First, the National Cemetery at Vicksburg was inspected. Second, just above Natchez, where the river bank is caving in and threatens to form a lake, a nocturnal investigation was made by aid of a trusty lantern. Third, a fog prevailing at Donaldsonville, it was also investigated. Fourth, the Commission spent two days looking about New Orleans, and then started in a direct line for the North Pole.

But to men of genius, an investigation apparently so superficial need not prevent the arrival at conclusions. As elaborate a report as the data provided by six months spent in careful investigation could furnish, can be and doubtless will be made. The Commission will report that Allah is great, and that Eads is His prophet; that the jetties are the most wonderful success of the century, and that the Mississippi River problem can be solved only by adopting Capt. Eads' plan, to cost anywhere from $50,000,000 to $100,000,000. But was it necessary to take even a flying trip down the Mississippi River, preliminary to evolving this report from the Commission's inner consciousness? One of Capt. Eads' talented secretaries at St. Louis could have furnished it at any time, and the document could have been sent by mail to the members of the Committee for their signatures. This would have simplified matters and saved the Government expense.

An Englishman in an American Crowd.

Mr. George Augustus Sala was deposited by a hackman, on his arrival in Philadelphia, on the day of the Grant reception, in the midst of the crowd, through which he and his wife were obliged to make their way to their hotel. In an interview with a representative of the Philadelphia *Press*, he spoke as follows with regard to the behavior of the throng: "I mingled with the mob and saw the show in the midst of what we term in England the howling multitude. I never was so impressed before with the good nature and amiability of an American crowd. I have never seen anything to compare with it. The deference and respect shown the ladies by the masculine portion of the throng surprised me. I failed to note one single instance of unourteous, unchivalric treatment. Now, that's a much different style of doing business to what we are accustomed to in England. Take, for instance, the mob we have in London on the 9th of every March, on the Lord Mayor's day. The lower classes always make it a point to turn the festival into an inferno, and to trample upon every one they meet. Many of them deliberately arm themselves with squirt guns full of dirty water, and discharge the contents on the back of every well dressed lady they come in contact with. The weapon is playfully nicknamed "the ladies' tormentor." From what I saw yesterday, if a vulgar ruffian were to perpetrate such an outrage on a lady in an American crowd, he'd be given short shrift, a stout cord, and the nearest lamp-post."

Dr. Harter's IRON TONIC

Is a Preparation of IRON and CALISAYA BARK, in combination with the Phosphates, Endorsed by the Medical Profession, and recommended by them for Dyspepsia, General Debility, Female Diseases, Want of Vitality, &c., &c.

Manufactured by the Dr. Harter Medicine Co., No. 212 N. Main Street, St. Louis.

The following is one of the very many testimonials we are receiving daily:

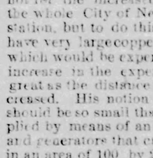
Gentlemen:—Some three months ago I began the use of DR. HARTER'S IRON TONIC, upon the advice of many friends who knew its virtues. I was suffering from general debility to such an extent that my labor was exceedingly burdensome to me. A vacation of a month did not give me much relief, but on the contrary, was followed by increased prostration and sinking chills. At this time I began the use of your IRON TONIC, from which I realized almost immediate and wonderful results. The old energy returned and I found that my natural force was not permanently abated. I have used three bottles of the TONIC. Since using it I have done twice the labor that I ever did in the same time during my illness, and with double the ease. With the tranquil nerve and vigor of body, has come also a clearness of thought never before enjoyed. If the TONIC has not done the work, I know not what. I give it the credit. Most gratefully yours.

J. P. WATSON, Pastor Christian Church, Troy, O.

TROY, O., Jan. 2, 1878.

For Sale by Druggists and General Dealers Everywhere.

CATARRH is a Terrible Disease. Its fearful effects—corruption running down the throat, weak eyes, deaf nose, loss of voice, loss of smell, disgusting odors, nasal deformities, and finally consumption. From first to last it is ever aggressive. Ordinary treatments are worse than useless. If neglected while a cure is possible, it may rapidly develop into quick consumption. The most thorough, successful and pleasant treatment is



Dr. H. W. CASE'S CARBOLATE of TAR INHALANT

It does not require *ten minutes* to demonstrate the value of Carbolate of Tar, *the most healing remedial agent known to science.* Balsams and Cordials of the most healing and soothing properties are so combined with Pine Tree Tar, that the mere breathing converts them into a dense smoke or vapor. This is *inhaled*—taken right to the diseased parts. **No heat, no hot water,** simply *inhaling* or *breathing* it, and you feel its healing power **at once.** This treatment is endorsed by physicians everywhere, and highly commended by thousands who have used it with perfect satisfaction. FULL TREATMENT—Circulars, etc., Sent Free—post. Satisfaction Always Guaranteed. Address, DR. H. W. CASE, 933 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

FOR CATARRH, ASTHMA, CONSUMPTION, Bronchitis & Deafness.

Office of D

News of the Week.

THE CAPITAL.

A dispatch says the Secretary of the Treasury has issued a circular announcing that proposals for the sale, on account of Government, of $5,000,000 of any of the bonds of United States, of description, and not to exceed the rate below stated, will be received at the office of the Assistant Treasurer of the United States at New York until noon of Wednesday the 7th instant, at which time bids will be opened and awards declared. The bonds thus purchased to be applied to the sinking funds as provided in section 3,694 revised statues United States. Act of February 9th 1861; sixes of 80 at 102½ Acts of March 2d, 1861, July 17, 1861, and March 3 1863 sixes of 81 at 104½ Five per cent. of 81 at 103½. Proposals should state specific character of the bonds offered, whether registered or coupon, and under what acts they were issued, and may be for any amount not less than $5,000. The offers must be for sale of bonds with accrued interest to and including the 7th inst., and each proposal must enclose a certified check for 5 per cent of the amount of bonds offered. The checks of unsuccessful bidders will be returned as soon as the result is ascertained and those of others on the following business day when the bonds must be delivered and payment in lawful money will be made as soon as they can be duly examined. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids and waive any defects.

At Washington, Jan. 2, the debt statement issued shows the decrease of debt for December to be $1,231,217; cash in Treasury, $207,983,905; gold certificates outstanding $12,337,100; silver certificates of deposit outstanding, $10,245,000; legal tenders outstanding, $346,681,016; fractional currency outstanding, $15,674,393.

At Washington Jan 2, Sec. Schurz, received a telegram from Gen. Hatch, dated Lake City; it reports that he has brought several Indian chiefs from the reservation to Lake City with him; that they are held by him for the purpose of preventing any demonstration by the young men of the tribe; that he desires to take them to the military camp at Garland, if deemed advisable, to send one of them back to see whether the surrender cannot still be effected.

A dispatch says the consolidated report of receipts from internal revenue for five months ending November 30, shows an aggregate increase compared with the same period last year of $1,315,672. The certificates of deposit for the month of December shows an increase in receipts for the month of $1,588,714 as compared with the same month last year, making an aggregate increase for six months of $2,904,385.

At Washington Jan. 4, Sec. Schurz received the following dispatch from Gen Hatch:

"ALAMOSA, Col., Jan. 3.—The White River Utes that were with Ouray on the 24th are not in his power. Ouray was requested to keep the Indians, but he had not the power. I am of the opinion that the Indians, when assured by yourself that there is no other way to avoid destruction, will decide to turn over the prisoners. As long as these Indians are in our hands the agency at Los Pinos is secure. Ouray came out at his own request and brought his wife with him. The Indians referred to in this dispatch whom Ouray could not bring in with him are Chief Douglas, Johnny his son, and four others.

At Washington Jan. 5, Chief Justice Waite announced the decision of the United States Supreme Court upon the motion recently made by Sen. Edmunds, to advance the case of Augustus D. Juillard against Thomas A. Greeman, generally known as the legal tender case, which now stands No. 779 on the calendar. The motion was denied. The Chief Justice said the Court would refuse to grant all motions to advance cases involving important constitutional questions so long as they could not be heard before a full bench.

EAST.

At Albany Jan. 1, the inauguration of Gov. Cornell took place at noon in the Assembly Chamber of the new Capitol. It was a very plain and simple ceremony, lasting only a few minutes, but it was witnessed by a vast concourse of citizens, many of whom were from distant parts of the State.

The New York Graphic, speaking of the remarkable rise in Edison's electric light shares, says: As high as $1 500 has been paid for one of these shares, and inside holders will not sell at that price, preferring to take the chances of their attaining a much higher value. About $5,000 is the present bid for stock. The Tribune rates the fact that among the 45 lamps now placed on exhibition at Menlo Park, several are already burning a little dull.

A New York dispatch says as it has been found inexpedient to inaugurate the cental system at the Produce Exchange, the Board of Managers resolved to recommend the postponement of the adoption of the system until such time as the necessary National and State legislation can be obtained to put it into force, and the principal commercial exchanges agree upon the time for its simultaneous adoption.

At Augusta, Jan. 5, about one half of the members had arrived. Republicans assert they will have possession of both branches of the Legislature by Thursday night.

Following is a petition presented to the Governor and Council Monday by Portland Representatives elect.

"To the Honorable Governor and Council of the State of Maine:

"The undersigned, Representatives elect from the City of Portland, respectfully represent that they have not received summons to attend and take their seats in the House of Representatives, which is to assemble on the first Wednesday of January, 1880, although they have been legally elected. They therefore pray that summons as is required by law may be issued to each of them and their several names and places of residences may be reported to the Secretary of State as such Representatives elect, in order that the same may be included in the certified roll to be furnished the Clerk of the preceding House of Representatives, required by the statutes in such cases made and provided.

(Signed) ALMON A. STOUT,
REVELS MAXCY,
SAM'L A. TRUE,
NATHAN E. REDLON,
BYRON D. VIRRELL.

A petition from Bath for the seating of Capt. Guyce Goss will be of the same tenor. It has been stated, on good authority, that the Fusionists claim that 70 is a quorum in the House on the ground that but 140 were counted in. The Republicans have issued circulars declaring that the position is not legal, and is against the recent decision of the Court. They state that the Fusionists will endeavor to compel the attendance of members sufficient to make a quorum, but that a whole House when fully organized has no power to send for a Representative elect, until he is sworn Governor. Garcelon states that the decision of the Court will not change his attitude toward the incoming Legislature. The points in the opinion might serve as a guide in the future, but his work had been performed under the constitution and statutes as he understood them, and he should neither withdraw the certificates nor issue new ones. Here and there may be found a dissenting voice to this position of the Governor, but in the main it has the approval of the mass of Fusionists.

WEST

At Denver, Col., Jan. 1, the Circuit Court announced a decision in open court in the contest between the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad Company and the Atchison & Topeka Company, over the occupation of the Grand Canon of the Arkansas. This case has absorbed much public attention and created deep public feeling here. The Court decides that the lease and cotemporaneous papers executed at Boston in October, 1878, have no relation to and do not affect this controversy, and therefore the mandates of the United States Supreme Court made last April adjudging the Denver & Rio Grande Company to have the prior right to use and build its road in the canon must be enforced. The court decides that the Atchison company must deliver to the Denver & Rio Grande company the entire line with the railroad on it from the mouth of the canon to South Arkansas River, 46 miles, on being paid the actual cost of construction, a commissioner to report such cost. Then, if the Atchison company wishes to build, it must build on the other side of the river in the narrow places, or by a parallel line adjacent. Formal decrees are yet to be prepared as to the line from South Arkansas to Leadville. Sixty miles of the present graded line is awarded to the Atchison Company. The topography of that country admits of the easy construction of other lines. The Denver company filed its petition to pay or deposit money to cover cost at once and have immediate possession given it so that it may go on and finish its line to Leadville.

At Denver, January 1, statistics published shows that 1879 has been the most prosperous year of Colorado's history. The failures were fewer and amounted to less. Within six months 1,500 new dealers have opened up different branches of trade. The farmers had an unusually fine season and are in easy financial condition, as are all other interests in the State business in the City shows an increase of fully one third over 1878. Cattle shipments from the State were 128 000 head. Wool product, 700,000 pounds; wheat 2 250,000 bushels, and other grain in proportion. Mine production $19 110,862 against $9,620,743 in 1878.

SOUTH.

At Savannah, Jan. 2, Gen. Grant held a reception, in the City Exchange. A number of old West Pointers, citizens and colored people called. The City authorities gave the party an excursion down the river below Fort Jackson. In the evening Gen. Grant, Gen. Sheridan and Fred Grant dined at the residence of Gen. H. R. Jackson and met Gen. McLaws, Gen Wayne, Gen. Lawton and other army officers. At night the Aldermen gave a serenade to Gen. Grant at his hotel. He responded briefly, acknowledging the compliment and regretting his short stay in Savannah. The party left at 4 P. M., Saturday for Florida.

FOREIGN.

Great Britain.

A dispatch says a very serious affray occurred Friday between the Constabulary and Galway peasants, during which the Police fired on the people, but nobody was injured. Galway County is in a very disturbed condition, and 200 extra policemen have been drafted there.

The London Mark Lane Express's annual crop report from 441 correspondents, representing every County in England, fully confirm the worst accounts regarding the serious failure of the crops. The Express says: The returns are the most discouraging we have ever published. Of the 429 districts from which returns were collected, not one has produced a wheat or pea crop of over the average; only two represent a barley crop and only six a bean crop over the average. Oats is the only crop that is not thoroughly bad. An examination of 10 years' tables shows that we have had a worse oat crop and as bad a bean crop; but for wheat, barley and peas there has been no year of the 10, and we might go further, nearly so unfruitful. Even with respect to oats and beans, if the weight and quality be taken into account, no year of the 10 has given such bad results. To wheat, this disastrous failure of the crop is most strikingly shown by the fact that only four out of the 429 returns represent it up to the average. The remarks of our correspondent as to the condition of the grain and pulse are as disheartening as the account of the yield.

A London dispatch says the exceptional transaction in the purchase of gold for export to America was recorded Monday, £35,000 having been taken from the open market for America. The operation is not regarded as initiating any considerable efflux at present. It is understood that arrangements are in progress for the transmission of considerable amounts of bonds for the partial liquidation of liabilities on account of grain and cotton imports.

Germany.

A Berlin dispatch says privy Councellor Hahbler, who has been negotiating with the representatives of the Vatican at Vienna, will shortly return here. This is taken as an indication that negotiations have progressed favorably.

Switzerland.

A Geneva dispatch says one of the consequences of the industrial crisis has been the complete revolution in the embroidery trade in Eastern Switzerland. American merchants are the principal purchasers of embroidered goods instead of ordering them from the manufacturers through native agents as formerly. They have established their own houses at St. Gall, and buy the material in the cheapest markets, and give orders direct to operatives who work at their own homes, thus dispensing with the help of manufacturers and agents.

Africa.

A London dispatch, dated Cape town, December 16, says: Sir Garnet Woolzky has telegraphed Sir Bartle Frere not to believe the alarming reports from the Transvaal. He says there was a great want of unanimity among the Boers at their recent meeting, a which a resolution was adopted in favor of maintaining the demand for the independence of the Transvaal.

Italy.

At Rome, January 3 Imbriani, Vice President of the Italia Irredenta Committee, published a pamphlet justifying the action of his party in causing their flag to be displayed at the funeral of Gen. Avezzana, late President of the Italia Irredenta Committee, asserting that the Ministers had declared to him that the cause of Italia Irredenta was dear to them, but that it was absolutely necessary to prevent Austria from having any opportunity of seeking a quarrel with Italy. Imbriani also affirms that the Ministers characterized the military law, recently passed by Austria, as a constant menace to Italy.

Nicotera, member of the Chamber of Deputies, has given notice of interpellation on this subject on the meeting of the Chambers. Dispatches from Leghorn report tumults there on the occasion of the funeral of an old Garabaldian officer.

Public Debt Statement.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The following is the statement of the public debt on the 31st day of December, 1879:

Six per cent. bonds	$273,490,550
Five per cent. bonds	705,440,350
Four and one half per cent. bonds	250,000,000
Four per cent. bonds	738,490,450
Refunding certificates	2,935,440
Navy pension fund	14,000,000
Total coin bonds	$1,786,656,850
Matured debt	14,691,000
Legal tenders	346,742,396
Certificates of deposit	10,245,000
Fractional currency	15,674,393
Gold and silver certificates	21,030,010
Total without interest	$ 393,711,679
Total debt	2,193,059,435
Total interest	$ 24,691,853
Cash in Treasury	207,983,905
Debt, less cash in Treasury	2,011,795,594
Decrease during December	4,251,217
Decrease since June 30, 1879	1,540,883
Current liabilities—	
Interest due and unpaid	$ 291,979
Debt on which interest has ceased	14,691,925
Interest thereon	997,650
Gold and silver certificates	21,030,010
United States notes held for redemption of certificates of deposit	10,254,000
Cash balance available Jan. 1, '80	158,307,900
Total	$ 207,983,905
Available assets—	207,983,905
Cash in the Treasury	
Bonds issued to Pacific R. R. Cos., interest payable in lawful money, principal outstanding	64,623,512
Interest accrued and not yet paid	1,998,705
Interest paid by the U. S	43,712,400
Interest repaid by transportation of mails, etc	13,720,474
Balance of interest paid by U. S.	30,191,076

Guilty of Wrong.

Some people have a fashion of confusing excellent remedies with the large mass of "patent medicines," and in this they are guilty of a wrong. There are some advertised remedies fully worth all that is asked for them, and one at least we know of—Hop Bitters. The writer has had occasion to use the Bitters in just such a climate as we have most of the year in Bay City, and has always found them to be first class and reliable, doing all that is claimed for them. —*Tribune.*

PARTIAL ORGANIZATION.

Extra Men Placed on Guard at the State House.

AUGUSTA, Me., Jan. 6.—Petitions to admit 12 counted out members from Rockland, Bath, Saco, Portland and Lewiston, were presented to the Governor and Council this forenoon. The attempt to influence Mr. Veter, of Farmington, counted in, to abandon his position of refusing a certificate failed. He declines to participate in the proceedings in the Legislature. Sprout, of Vassis, was labored with on Monday, but still adheres to his determination to keep away from the Legislature. Three other Fusion members are known positively to refuse certificates, and one or two are detained at home by sickness. The remainder are here participating in the various caucuses but it is not known whether all will take part in the organization.

Hobson, counted in Senator from Lincoln, says he intends to do what is right and follow out the Greenback party. He should take his seat and immediately move for a Committee to investigate the election in Lincoln County. While he thought the votes thrown for Andrew R. C. Smith and Andrew R. G were for the same person. He was satisfied that he (Hobson) was entitled to his seat, on the ground of fraud and intimidating and bribery.

Fifty extra men were placed in the State House this morning about 1 o'clock. It is stated that 100 more armed men were placed there to-night. Gen. Chamberlin ordounced a partial organization State militia, headquarters of First Division are established in Augusta.

TERRIBLE EXPLOSION.

Converting Room of the Celluloid Factory Blown Up and Several Persons Killed and Wounded.

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 5 A fearful explosion took place about 11 o'clock this morning in the converting room of the Celluloid Manufacturing Company at Terry and Ashbridge streets, by which three men were instsntly killed and two others so burned that they cannot survive. The workmen were in their accustomed places, when from some unknown cause a mass of celluloid, which is a highly inflammable material, suddenly exploded, destroying the one story brick building with all its contents. Wm. Fenler, aged 15, was killed. The body was found in the ruins, a ghastly spectacle. Under this body were the disfigured remains of Frederick Stiles, of Roselle, so charred that it was scarcely recognizable. John Gates, residence unknown, was also killed. Spencer Atwood died in 10 minutes from concussion of the brain. Elmer Bogart, of 54 Blum street, and Frederick Pierce, of Pacific street, were fearfully burned, and taken to the hospital. There is no hope of their recovery. Stephen W. Wade of Springfield avenue, was severely but not dangerously injured.

The loss on the building and contents is estimated at $10,000; insured. The manager of the Celluloid says the explosion probably occurred from gas at the machine run by Fred Stiles who was killed. The machine was used for mixing and grinding the material

LIVELY DISCUSSION.

The Argument Is Adjourned, But the Dispute Ends in Blows.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—Col. Boudin t a well known Cherokee, residing here, made an argument before the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to-day, in support of the petition filed by him praying that he be put in possession of the hotel property at Vinita, Ind. Ter. Col. W. P. Adair, second chief of the Cherokee Nation, with several other members of the Cherokee delegation and ex Congressman Phillipps of Kansas opposed Boudinet's claim. Discussion became so warm, the argument was adjourned 10 days by the Commissioner. Boudinet and Adair, however, continued the controversy in a heated manner outside the Commissioner's room. Finally, each struck at the other with his cane and then clinched and fell to the floor. They were then separated by the Department Watchman and before serious injury was inflicted. The fight caused much excitement in the Interior Department.

Message of Gov. Bishop.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 5.—Gov. Bishop's annual message was submitted to the General Assembly to day. From it the following facts and figures are obtained: The public debts of Ohio aggregate $52, 257,000, of which amount $41 490,574 are local debts contracted by counties, townships and villages. The taxes collected during the past year aggregate $28,569, 762, of which amount $21,028,000 were for county and local taxes. The public works are reported in excellent condition and a source of revenue to the State. The gross earnings for tolls, fines and water rents for the past year amounted to $219 140, and the expenses were $187, 116. The Governor declares that it is no longer a question that these works under State management are self sustaining and worthy of the fostering care of the Assembly.

Attention is called to the great improvement in the State National Guard, and the recommendation is made that the present plan of consolidation shall be carried out. The benevolent institutions are reported in excellent condition, and the recommendation is made that a reformatory prison be erected, that distinct workhouses should be provided, and that in case children's homes are not provided in all the Counties by a given time, that each County thus directed shall be required to send all children remaining in the County infirmaries to the nearest Children's Home. Also that an additional asylum be built for the care of insane criminals and epileptic insane. Special attention is called to the excellent condition of the penitentiary and the abolition of extreme punishment including the ducking tub, dungeon and thumb screws. The Governor insists that with a decrease of punishment, good order, discipline and health has increased among the convicts.

The State University now has pupils from 57 Counties and is commended as worthy of further care. The message urges the importance of granting additional powers to the State Insurance Commissioner, so as to allow him to decide as to the soundness of fire insurance companies doing business in Ohio. The Legislature is called upon to pass a law providing for Boards of Arbitration as the best method of preventing strikes among laboring men, and also laws to prevent incompetent persons from running stationary engines. Attention is called to the decrease of railroad debts during the past year, owing to the increased traffic. The suggestion is made that in view of the recent revision of statutes that few laws should be passed this Winter and none to take effect at once. The message closes by recommending the bringing of all possible influence to bear upon Congress to secure the improvement of the Ohio River; the desirability that legislation should provide for a further geological survey of the Ohio mineral fields; that renewed liberality should be shown to Public Schools, and an appropriation be made for the erection of an Executive Mansion.

Case of Conscience.

Washington Star, 27th.

The smallest contribution to the conscience fund ever received by the Treasury Department came in to day. It was 17 three-cent stamps, in an envelope postmarked "Washington." They were deposited with Treas. Gilfillan.

$3.00 Made From 25 Cents.

Twenty-five cents' worth of Gilt-Edge Butter Maker will increase product and market value of butter produced $3.00. Gives butter a rich golden color the year round. Increases product 6 per cent. Increases quality 20 per cent. Prevents butter from becoming rancid. Makes July, August and Winter butter equal to best June product. Sold only in boxes, by druggists, grocers and general storekeepers. Send stamp for "Hints to Butter-Makers." Address Butter Improvement Co, Buffalo, N. Y.

PARNELL.

His Reception in New York.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—About 8 000 people assembled in Madison Square garden to-night to tender a public welcome to Charles Stewart Parnell. The gathering was a mixed one. There was a sprinkling of political element and many ladies occupied seats in the balconies. The audience was a most orderly and good natured one. The platform from which the speakers were to address the audience had on it seats arranged for about 100 persons. It was clearly evident that the voices of the speakers could be heard half the length of the garden, but many had come merely to see the great agitator.

In seats on the platform were Judges Gildersleeve and Olker, Hon. Thurlow Weed, Hon. William E Robinson, Stephen J. Meany, ex Alds McCafferty and Gutton and members of the Committee of Arrangements. A Committee appointed for the purpose went to the hotel and escorted Mr Parnell and Mr. Dillon to the Garden. Immediately on their entrance a cheer was raised at the door which spread along the building like wildfire. The audience was frantic with excitement, Men shouted themselves hoarse and ladies waved their handkerchiefs. The band struck up "Auld Lang Syne." It was some time when the excitement subsided. Judge Gildersleeve presided, and introduced Mr. Parnell, who, after thanking the assemblage for their cordial reception, spoke as follows:

The American nation has, by common consent, been made the arbitrator in the great struggle for land in Ireland. Within the last few days extraordinary occurrences have taken place. The landlords of Ireland, for the first time in history, have recognized their true position as culprits, and have come before the bar of American public opinion and plead their cause as best they may. (Applause.) I rejoice that the pages of the New York *Herald*—(groans and hisses) There is no necessity to hiss the New York *Herald*. It has been indirectly of the greatest possible service to our cause, and I repeat that I rejoice that its pages have been opened to the landlord side of the question. I rejoice that a man of the great ability of Mr. Kavanaugh has come forward to make the best defence that he can for the accursed system that prevails in Ireland, (groans and hisses) thinking the people in this country will now feel in this which they could not have felt before and it is fitting that the people of America should known the very best that can be said for the landlords. Now I wish to explain very shortly my intention in visiting this country, and I may say that the intention we originally had has been considerably modified by the presence of circumstances. Originally we proposed only to address you on behalf of our political organization but because the events in Ireland have culminated so rapidly, the terrible fear of widespread famine is so imminent that we feel constrained to abandon our original intention and leave ourselves open to receive from the people of America money for the purpose of political organization, and also money for the relief of the present distress in Ireland. We propose then to form two funds, one for the relief of distress and the other for the purely political purpose of forwarding our organization. (Applause.) These funds will be kept entirely distinct, so that the donors will be afforded an opportunity of doing as the people in the matter. It has been suggested by a very influential paper in this City, that we ought to devote our attention only to the relief of distress, and that we should join a Committee which has been proposed by the Herald (groans and hisses) for the relief of the distress of the Irish landlords and the British Government in general. But if we accept the very good advice that has been so charitably extended to us in the shape of words during the past few days, I am afraid that we should incur the imputation of putting the cart before the horse.

Mr. Parnell went on to say that they must take advantage of the present, as the unexampled relief given by America in 1847 at the time of the great Irish famine, did not remove the bad system of land tenure, which is now producing more distress.

Resolutions were adopted declaring that Mr. Parnell and Mr. Dillon were deserving of unqualified confidence; that by their sacrifices and pride in coming to this country they were entitled to generous and practical assistance; that while the relief of immediate suffering has a claim on immediate action we cannot overlook the fact that a system which produces this suffering needs change, that money to the relief of this distress is wanted at once and besides funds are wanted to strengthen the hand of the Irish Land League in order that such a readjustment of the Irish land tenure may be had as will prevent a recurrence of this distress; that a committee be appointed with a view to aid in the grand achievement of giving ancient people a living in their own land; realizing the idea of giving Ireland a place among the nations of the earth; in other words Ireland for the Irish and the Irish people.

Speaking of the claim made by the British Government that the ordinary action of the poor law is sufficient to meet the emergency, he said that it was proved in years gone by, and has been proved frequently ever since that an Irish tenant will die in the ditch rather than enter the poor house [Applause] and he is right. The Irish poor law system is the most fiendish and ingenious system that we have received from England for the purpose of slowly torturing our country to death. Ties of families are broken up, the father is separated from his children, children from their mother, wife from her husband, and are held inmates of the workhouse which they must enter, and are consigned to what is far many of them a living death. "All ye who enter here abandon hope," might be appropriately written on the portals of every workhouse in Ireland.

Speaking of what he proposed to do he said: We propose to make the occupiers of soil owners. We wish to do this with as little injury to what may be considered the vested interests as possible. No physical violence, no unconstitutional action is contemplated, or, in my judgment, necessary. As I have repeatedly said, the American public opinion is one of our greatest weapons, and landlords themselves by invoking that public opinion have shown the very high value that they place upon it.

Speaking of the charge that money raised in America would go to assist armed rebellion, Mr. Parnell said: "I have no doubt that many of my fellow countrymen in this country would like to organize an armed rebellion, but I regret to have to disappoint them; also, because I must in truth and honesty tell you, however singular the statement may be, that not one cent of the money contributed and handed to us will go to organizing any armed rebellion in Ireland."

I confidently look forward to the time when the tiller of the soil in Ireland may as in other free countries, reap the benefit of his exertions and hand the result down to his children. Then I believe that one great step towards the freedom of Ireland will have been made, that we shall have put the nail in the coffin of English misrule (applause) removed one of the greatest impediments to the union of all classes and all religions there, (great cheers) and that we shall have the wish of every Irish patriot in all ages realized, that the orange and green may be united, (cheers,) the Protestant and Catholic enabled to work together for the good of their country, (applause,) and that no cause may exist to prevent any class of countrymen from doing their duty to the land which has given them birth. (Great applause)

The band then played "The Rocky Road to Dublin." Judge Gildersleeve introduced John B Dillon, who was received with prolonged applause, and who made a speech.

CURE FOR COUGH OR COLD.—As soon as there is the slightest uneasiness of the Chest, with difficulty of breathing, or indication of Cough, take during the day a few of "*Brown's Bronchial Troches.*"

HANGING THE AFGHANS.

Dying for Their Country.

London Daily News Letter.

On the 6th, seven men brought in by Gen. Gough's force from the Shuturgarden and intermediate villages were hanged, one being a Havildar of a Herat regiment, present in Cabul at the massacre. This was followed by an excursion into the Chardeh Valley, the villagers of which were known to be harboring disbanded Sepoys. Taking the road through the northern suburbs of Cabul, the troops passed through the gorge by which the river enters the City, and then turned sharply across the stream and followed the foot of the hills until near the village of Indikee.

The *mullicks*, or headmen, were summoned by Gen. Baker, who ordered them to bring out all Sepoys of the Afghan army. Five minutes' grace was allowed, and within this time 30 men came forward. The General had a roll-call, showing the names of Sepoys known to live or be hidden in Indikee, and as many of those were missing the *mullicks* were asked to explain their absence. They admitted that 20 men were absent, but promised to bring them in when they returned. Indikee had distinguished itself particularly by firing at our cavalry patrols before Charasiab and by receiving within its walls the fugitives who fled from the attack of the Seventy-second Highlanders and the Fifth Ghoorkas when the hills were stormed on the day of the fight. A fine of 1,500 maunds (120,000 pounds) of grain and 600 loads of bhoosa (chopped straw for forage) was levied and the whole population disarmed.

Gen. Baker then visited smaller villages near and captured 18 more Sepoys. There could be little doubt that most of them had been trained as soldiers. They fell into their places, shoulder to shoulder, when the order was given, and, keep time to the quick step of the Sikhs, marched along in good order to our camp. Forty more Sepoys were brought in by the mullicks on the 9th and 10th. This made 89 in all, and they have been dealt with as follows:

	Hanged.	Released.
November 10	11	6
November 11	18	19
November 12	10	13
Pardoned and retained as informers	—	2
Total	49	40

Any men who could show by fair evidence that they were absent from Cabul, lying sick in their villages or otherwise engaged when the mutiny and after events took place, were released. Many did not attempt to deny their presence in the Bala Hissar or at Charasiab. The stories invented by the others were tested by the statements of the *mullicks* who were all along kept separate from the Sepoys, and examined independently. Confronted finally with their headmen and the falseness of their defense exposed, these prisoners did not take the trouble to invent further explanations.

The men executed belonged to the Herat regiments. They were either at Cabul when the outbreak occurred, or returned to fight against us, the muster rolls now in our hands enabling us to identify them without much trouble. They did not attempt to give false names, and their *mullicks* were warned that they themselves might incur further punishment if they screened Sepoys belonging to their villages. Such as could not give a clear account of their movements were condemned to death, and they submitted to their fate with the usual quiet resignation of Mussulmans. Many were of the worst type of Afghans, and their callousness when waiting their turn at the foot of the scaffold (16 men were hanged at a time) was remarkable.

Their seeming carelessness as to their fate never varied, whether the sentence was death or acquittal. Their fanaticism is equal to all fortunes. Our great regret is that, while we are sending the rank and file to the gallows, the ringleaders are still at large. Such poor specimens of humanity as these marched daily to execution are of but little account in our sight, and will not be missed in a country like this; whereas the execution of leading men—as Kushdil Khan, Neck Mahomed or Mahomed Jan—would have a wholesome effect on the whole tribe of intriguers who have brought Yakoob Khan so low. Unfortunately we have not these leaders in our hands. They are still living, and capable of further evil doing.

WARLIKE PREPARATIONS.

Russia Increasing Her Forces and Multiplying Her Arrangements for Supplies Upon a Vast Scale.

LONDON, Jan. 6.—The Daily Telegraph vouches for the trustworthiness of the communication dated Koenigsberg, December 31, asserting that the distribution of the Russian army shows a striking convergence towards the western portion of the Empire, and that Russia's effective forces are being increased in far greater portion than can be justified by the object of filling up vacancies left by the late Russo-Turkish war. Within the past few weeks the strong force already quartered in the western Provinces has been increased by four divisions of infantry and one of cavalry. This raises the force there to nearly one half of the entire Russian army on a peace footing. Extensive measures of reorganization and improvement in all the departments of service are being pushed forward. The greatest activity also prevails in increasing the means of communication and providing halting places. Military railways are being constructed, depôts of supplies for arsenals, building materials, etc., are being made on a vast scale, without scarcely any attempt at concealment. The arming of frontier fortresses is being effected with the utmost promptitude

A Berlin correspondent says: It is remarkable that Russian troops are again permitted to speak of an impending war against Austria and Germany. The coming campaign is the talk of the day in the military coffee houses of Kief, Kamieniec, Podolsk, Zehitomeer and other garrison towns near the Austrian frontier.

—"Nip your cough in the bud," said Horace Greeley, by taking "Dr. Sellers' Cough Syrup." Lose no time in getting a bottle.

FELLOWS'
Compound Syrup of
HYPOPHOSPHITES.
NERVOUSNESS.

I affords me great pleasure to bear testimony to the benefit I have derived from using Fellows' Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites. I have recommended it to many of my friends, and it has proved in every instance a most valuable and general Debility. It is also a first class Tonic—enables a person to take on flesh rapidly, and is free from the objectionable features characteristic of other Tonics I have tried.
HENRY JOHNSTON, Montreal.

Read Dr. Earle's Testimonial.

MR. JAMES I. FELLOWS, Manufacturing Chemist.

SIR,—For several months past I have used your Compound Syrup in the treatment of Incipient Phthisis, Chronic Bronchitis, and other Affections of the Chest, and I have no hesitation in stating that it ranks foremost amongst the remedies used in those diseases. Being an excellent Nervous Tonic, it exerts a direct influence on the Nervous System, and through it, it invigorates the body. It affords me pleasure to recommend a remedy which is really good in cases for which it is intended, when so many advertised are worse than useless.

I am, sir, yours truly,
R. S. EARLE, JR., M. D.

Price, $1.50 per Bottle. Six for $7.50
SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

COLUMBIA BICYCLE.
Better than a horse, because you can ride it more miles in a day than a horse can go, and it eats nothing.
Send Three-cent Stamp for Price List and 24 page Illustrated Catalogue with full information.
THE POPE MANUFACG CO.,
78 Summer Street, Boston, Mass.

FITS CURED PROMPTLY and PERMANENTLY. Send a 2c. stamp for my celebrated remedy, which is a valuable treatise on this disease, free to all sufferers who send their P. O. and Express address Dr. H. G. ROOT, 183 Pearl Street, New York

Health is Wealth.
Health of Body is Wealth of Mind.
RADWAY'S
Sarsaparilian
Resolvent.
Pure blood makes sound flesh, strong bone and a clear skin. If you would have your flesh firm, your bones sound, without caries, and your complexion fair use RADWAY'S SARSAPARILLIAN RESOLVENT.
A Grateful Recognition.
To cure a CHRONIC OR LONG STANDING DISEASE is truly a victory in the healing art; that reasoning power that clearly discerns DEFECT and supplies a remedy; that restores step by step—by degrees—the body which has been slowly attacked and weakened by an insidious disease, not only commands our respect but deserves our gratitude. Dr. Radway has furnished mankind with that wonderful remedy, RADWAY'S SARSAPARILLIAN RESOLVENT which accomplishes this result, and suffering humanity, who drag out an existence of pain and disease, through long days and long nights, owe him their gratitude.—Medical Messenger.
FALSE AND TRUE.
We extract from Dr. Radway's Treatise on Disease and its cure, as follows:
LIST OF DISEASES CURED BY
DR. RADWAY'S
SARSAPARILLIAN
RESOLVENT.
Chronic Skin Diseases, Caries of the Bone, Humors in the Blood, Scrofulous Diseases, Bad or Unnatural Habit of Body, Syphilis and Venereal Fever Sores, Chronic or Old Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Rose, or White Swelling, Scald Head, Uterine Affections, Cankers, Glandular Swellings, Boils, Wasting and Decay of the Body, Pimples and Blotches Tumours, Dyspepsia, Kidney and Bladder Diseases Chronic Rheumatism and Gout, Consumption Gravel and Calculous Deposits, and varieties of the above complaints to which sometimes are given special names.
We assert that there is no known remedy that possesses the curative power over these diseases that RADWAY'S RESOLVENT furnishes. It cures step by step, surely, from the foundation, and restores the injured parts to their sound condition. The waste of the body are stopped and healthy blood is supplied to the system, from which new material is formed. This is the first corrective power of RADWAY'S RESOLVENT.
In cases where the system has been saturated and for years, Quicksilver, Corrosive Sublimate have settled and become deposited in the bones, joints, etc. causing caries of the bones, rickets spinal curvature, confirmed, white swellings, varicose veins, etc., the SARSAPARILLIAN will resolve away these deposits and exterminate the virus of the disease from the system.
If those who are taking those medicines for the cure of Chronic, Scrofulous or Syphilitic diseases however slow may be the cure, "feel better" and find their general health improving, their flesh and weight increasing or even keeping its own. It is a sure sign that the cure is progressing. In those diseases the patient either gets better or worse—the virus of the disease is not inactive; if not arrested and driven from the blood it will spread and continue to undermine the constitution. As soon as the SARSAPARILLIAN makes the patient feel better every hour you will grow better and increase in health, strength and flesh.
OVARIAN TUMORS.
The removal of these Tumors by RADWAY'S RESOLVENT is now certainly established, that what was once considered almost miraculous is now a recognized fact by all parties. Witness the cases of Hannah F. Knapp, Mrs. C. Kraft, Mrs. J. H. Jolly and Mrs. P. D. Hendrix, published in our Almanac for 1879; also that of Mrs. C. S. Bibbins, in the present edition of our False and True.
Space forbids our making particular reference to the various cases of chronic diseases reached by our SARSAPARILLIAN RESOLVENT. Invalids and their friends must consult our writings if they wish to obtain an idea of the promise and potency of R. R. R. Remedies.
One Dollar per Bottle.
MINUTE REMEDY.
Only requires minutes, not hours, to relieve pa and cure acute diseases.
Radway's Ready Relief,
In from one to twenty minutes, never fails to relieve PAIN with one thorough application. No matter how violent or excruciating the pain, the RHEUMATIC, Bed-ridden, Infirm, Crippled, Nervous Neuralgic, or prostrated with disease may suffer, RADWAY'S READY RELIEF will afford instant ease.
Inflammation of the Kidneys, Inflammation of the Bladder, Inflammation of the Bowels, Congestion of the Lungs, Sore Throat, Difficult Breathing, Palpitation of the Heart, Hysterics, Croup, Diphtheria, Catarrh, Influenza, Headache, Toothache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Cold Chills, Ague Chills, Chilblains, Frost Bites, Burns, Scalds, Summer Complaints, Coughs, Colds, Sprains, Pains in the Chest, Back or Limbs, are instantly relieved.
FEVER AND AGUE
Fever and Ague cured for Fifty Cents. There is not a remedial agent in the world that will cure Fever and Ague, and all other Malarious, Bilious, Scarlet, Typhoid, Yellow, and other Fevers (aided by RADWAY'S PILLS) so quick as RADWAY'S READY RELIEF.
It will in a few moments, when taken according to directions, cure Cramps, Spasms, Sour Stomach, Heartburn, Sick Headache, Diarrhœa, Dysentery, Colic, Wind in the Bowels, and all internal Pains. Travellers should always carry a bottle of RADWAY'S READY RELIEF with them. A few drops in water will prevent sickness or pains from change of water. It is better than French brandy or bitters as a stimulant.
Miners and Lumbermen should always be provided with it.
CAUTION.
All remedial agents capable of destroying life by an overdose should be avoided. Morphine, opium, strychnine, arsnic, hyoscianus, and other powerful remedies, are deadly in their effects, but will relieve the patient during their action in the system. But perhaps the second dose, if repeated, has increased and increases the suffering, and another dose cause death. There is no necessity of using these uncertain agents when a positive remedy like RADWAY'S READY RELIEF will stop the most excruciating pain quicker, without entailing the least difficulty in either infant or adult.
THE TRUE RELIEF.
RADWAY'S READY RELIEF is the only remedial agent in vogue that will instantly stop pain.
Fifty Cents per Bottle.
RADWAY'S
REGULATNIG PILLS.
Perfect Purgatives, Soothing Aperients, Act Without Pain, Always Reliable and Natural in their Operation
VEGETABLE SUBSTITUTE for CALOMEL
Perfectly tasteless, elegantly coated with sweet gum, purge, regulate, purify, cleanse and strengthen.
RADWAY'S PILLS, for the cure of all Disorders of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder Nervous Diseases, Headache, Constipation, Costiveness, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Fever, Inflammation of the Bowels, Piles and all derangements of the Internal Viscera. Warranted to effect a positive cure. Purely vegetable, containing no mercury, mineral or deleterious drugs.
Observe the following symptoms resulting from Disorders of the Digestive Organs.
Constipation, Inward Piles, Fullness of the Blood in the Head, Acidity of the Stomach, Nausea, Heartburn, Disgust of Food, Fullness or weight in the Stomach, Sour Eructations, Sinkings or Fluttering in the